

COINage Kids: Start a SCARY Coin Collection



COINage

A Magazine for Coin Collectors | OCTOBER 2015

1916 SILVER



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COINage Wins
Numismatic Literary
Guild Honors

2016: A
GOLDEN
CENTENNIAL





"My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

- John F. Kennedy

Inaugural Address
Friday, January 20, 1961

The just-released John F. Kennedy presidential dollar figured to be among the most popular issues in the ongoing series of \$1 coins honoring the nation's chief executives, now in the ninth year of its roughly 10-year run. JFK was one of America's most beloved presidents, and his shocking assassination ensured that his images would endure, as if frozen in time, in our nation's history.

Historic Coin Portrait The new coin design is the work of Don Everhart, senior sculptor-engraver on the U.S. Mint's roster of staff artists. Depicting a contemplative JFK looking down and seemingly lost in thought, the image is similar to the official portrait hanging in the White House – also capturing Kennedy in a reflective moment, with his head bowed and eyes downcast. The portrait was painted in 1970, seven years after the assassination, and was closely monitored by Kennedy's widow, Jacqueline, who not only commissioned the artist, Aaron Shikler, but also gave him detailed instructions on how she wanted the president to be shown. The portrait differs greatly from the presidential images on other White House paintings, and Everhart has acknowledged that Shikler's work inspired the equally unique likeness of JFK on the coin.

A Woman's Touch It's a little-known fact, but Jacqueline Kennedy, one of America's favorite First Ladies, also played a role in the final design of the enormously popular Kennedy half dollar, which was first issued in 1964. She asked the coin's designer, Mint Chief Engraver Gilroy Roberts, to modify the details of her husband's hair – and the changes were, of course, made.

JFK, Purple Heart & Navy SEALS John F. Kennedy was a different kind of president – the youngest ever elected, recipient of a Purple Heart for his heroism, creator of the Navy SEALS, and the first (and so far only) Roman Catholic, to cite four important examples. In my opinion, such a president deserves a coin that likewise bears a historic design. I believe Don Everhart captured what Jackie and JFK would have liked, given the design of the presidential painting. I base this on a story my parents told me many years ago regarding an interaction they had with Jack and Jackie Kennedy at a 1959 dinner in Lake Charles, Louisiana. (See Bonus Gifts)

"This new JFK dollar continues the tradition of historic, artistic coins like those I saw in the Smithsonian's exclusive opening of the new Value of Money exhibit."

- Mike Fuljenz

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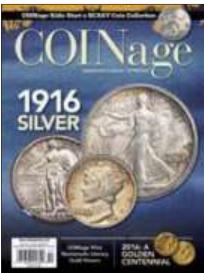
*Numismatic Literary Guild Award Winner



COINage

October 2015 | Volume 51 | Number 10

On the Cover: 1916 saw design updates to the silver dime, quarter and half dollar (p. 18). Classic coins get a golden makeover for 2016 (p. 26). World mints put out monster coins (p. 60). (Photos courtesy Heritage Auctions, US Mint, Public Domain)



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Our special prices are designed to deliver fair value. In my experience, you might pay roughly double from some retailers; but retail prices can vary considerably in catalogs, ads, price guides, etc. Opinions as to grade, retail, wholesale, fair value, etc., ultimately are just that, opinions.

I, myself, have been an avid collector for over 50 years and a dealer for over 30 years. Like you, I understand the importance of receiving fair value for money spent. As a dealer offering a no-obligation monthly program (cancel at any time), it's essential to keep you satisfied each and every month. Our firm has prospered thanks to our many loyal customers.

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600.00	298.00	
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2,000.00	950.00	
5,000.00	2,250.00	

PLAN D-2: PCGS/NGC CERTIFIED GEM BU MS65-66 MORGAN DOLLARS and/or WALKING HALVES



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650.00	395.00	
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5,000.00	2,795.00	

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	Retail (Estimated)	Special
	\$300.00	\$199.00
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	650.00	390.00
	800.00	495.00
	1,000.00	595.00
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	5,000.00	2,795.00
	10,000.00	5,450.00

PLAN D-5: U.S. GOLD COINS 1800-1932 CHOICE BU



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	1,825.00	1,000.00
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	22,000.00	10,000.00

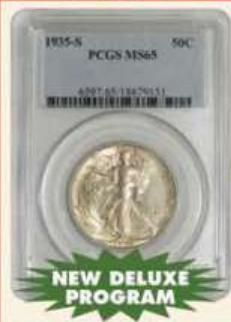
PLAN D-6: DELUXE EARLY U.S. GOLD COINS NGC/PCGS MS 63-66 (1850-1932)



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PLAN D-7: NGC/PCGS MS/PROOF 65-70 "DELUXE" POPULAR 20TH CENTURY SERIES



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	Retail (Estimated)	Special
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	400.00	200.00
	600.00	300.00
	1,000.00	500.00
	2,200.00	1,000.00
	3,500.00	1,495.00
	5,000.00	2,095.00

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59D	60P	60D	61D	62P	62D	63P	63D	64P
64D	65	70S	81P	99P	03P	03D	04T2D	05T1D
05T2P	05T2D	06P	06D	07P	07D	08P	08D	
50 CENTS EACH: 40D 40S 41S 42D 46D 47S								
48D	49P	49D	50P	54P	54S	56P	57P	61P
66	67	71D	72D	73D	76D	77P	77D	80D
91P	00P	04P	02T2	04DT1	05PT1	14P	14D	
\$1.00 EACH: 38P 41D 42NICK 46S 51P 51S								
53P	55P	68S	69D	69S	70D	73P	74P	74D
75D	78D	79P	79D	80P	81D	85P	85D	87P
87D	88P	88D	89P	89D	90P	90D	91D	92P
93D	94P	94D	95P	96P	96D	00D	01D	02D
04PT1	10P	10D	11P	11D	12P	12D	13P	13D
\$1.50 EACH: 38DJEFF 39S 48P 48S 68D 72P								
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"My Two Cents' Worth"

by Ed Reiter



Hi-Yo, PALLADIUM!

Say the secret word and win a hundred dollars."

Sixty years later, I still remember hearing Groucho Marx use that line to welcome contestants to his long-running TV quiz show "You Bet Your Life." Typically, the secret word was, as Groucho put it, "a common word, something you'll find around the house." When someone said it, a duck dropped down with the money.

I watched "You Bet Your Life" regularly throughout the 1950s, and I can't recall a single show in which the secret word—or "woid," in Groucho-ese—was "palladium." Until recently, I would have doubted that it could be found even now around the average American's house.

Then, late last year, Congress opened my eyes by passing the American Eagle Palladium Bullion Coin Act. If this legislation is fully implemented, the U.S. Mint will soon be producing one-ounce bullion coins made of palladium, a rare but rather dull-looking, whitish-gray metal that comes from the platinum family.

Obviously, Congress had detected a demand that eluded me completely. I had been so distracted keeping tabs on peripheral subjects—gold and silver, for example—that I had failed to notice the massive groundswell of interest in palladium.

Bear with me for a second while I remove my tongue from my cheek, where it's squarely planted. There has been no such groundswell, of course. In fact, I can't recall ever hearing anyone express the slightest interest in palladium U.S. coinage.

Why issue it, then? you ask. The answer is simple: Because it would create a major new market for the Stillwater Mining Co. of Billings, Montana, the only active producer of palladium in this country. Stillwater needs a big new buyer to replace General Motors, which has turned to a foreign supplier for the metal, a key component of the catalytic converters in its cars.

Besides, palladium coinage would be a wonderful product for collectors and investors. If you don't believe me, just ask the legislation's sponsor, Congressman Denny Rehberg, who represents Montana—all of Montana—in the House of Representatives.

"This," Rehberg says, "is a good bill for Montana that will empower the private sector to create good, well-paying jobs.

"As the price of gold skyrockets," he adds, "palladium provides investors with an option for an alternative precious metal."

That's like saying beach houses in the Hamptons give New York millionaires an alternative to penthouse apartments in Manhattan. Palladium, you see, has been selling lately for nearly \$800 an ounce, so this isn't a case of replacing butter with Parkay®. Silver provides an affordable alternative to gold. Palladium coins would provide little more than a new market outlet for Stillwater Mining.

I suppose I can't fault Congressman Rehberg for taking good care of the folks back home. But if Congress plans to pass job creation bills on a company-by-company basis, it won't have much time for anything else. Come to think of it, that might not be such a bad thing.

Given all the rhetoric about the need to cut federal spending, do we really need a new coinage program that serves no national purpose, fills no pressing need and meets no apparent demand, yet figures to divert resources from an already full plate of existing programs?

This is not the first time parochial interests have determined federal policy regarding coins and currency. Since 1879, Crane & Co. of Dalton, Massachusetts, has held an exclusive contract to provide the special paper on which U.S. currency is printed. Throughout the years, it has guarded this relationship jealously.

There have been repeated efforts in recent years to get the American public to use small \$1 coins instead of dollar bills—and the latest report shows that Uncle Sam would save more than \$1 billion in the first 10 years if people would do so. But it's generally agreed that this will never happen unless the government stops making dollar bills.

Solidly supported by the Massachusetts delegation in Congress, Crane has managed to block such a move up to now.

Constituent service is wonderful. But when it clashes with national interest, should it really take precedence?

It's the sort of thing that might have made Groucho Marx roll his eyes. ☺

DREAM COLLECTIONS

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20 Different \$99
Both Deals: All 25: \$175

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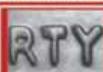
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Gem BU
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1960-D/D, 1961-D/D
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(These are the big ones!! RPM #1!!!)

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1910-P	75.00	1914-P	150.00	1918-P	125.00
1911-P	125.00	1915-P	275.00	1919-P	75.00

All "12" \$1,250.00

1920-P	\$75.00	1924-P	125.00	1927-P	60.00
1921-P	125.00	1925-P	50.00	1928-P	60.00
1923-P	125.00	1926-P	45.00	1929-P	60.00

All "9" \$675.00 • All "21" \$1,895.00



SCARCE EARLY LINCOLN CENTS

Lustrous Very Choice B.U.

"At A Fraction of M.S. 65 Red Prices"

M.S.65 Retail	Special	M.S.65 Retail	Special		
1910-S	\$800	\$295	1916-D	\$3,250	\$250
1911-D	1,800	695	1916-S	10,000	395
1911-S	3,000	695	1917-D	3,200	350
1912-D	2,000	395	1917-S	25,000	495
1912-S	4,500	495	1918-D	3,500	295
1913-D	2,000	395	1918-S	12,000	595
1913-S	6,000	695	1919-D	3,000	250
1915-D	2,000	250	1919-S	15,000	395
1915-S	7,000	995			

Excellent opportunity for you to upgrade your collection at an affordable price. These are about as nice as you can reasonably expect before the huge jump in price.



1920-1929 MINTMARKED LINCOLN CENTS

Very Choice B.U.

"At A Tiny Fraction of M.S. 65 Red Prices!"

M.S. 65 RED RETAIL	SPECIAL	M.S. 65 RED RETAIL	SPECIAL		
1920-D	\$2,500	\$250	1926-D	\$5,000	\$350
1920-S	\$40,000	\$695	1926-S	\$175,000	\$1,995
1921-S	\$20,000	\$695	1927-D	\$2,500	\$195
1922-D	\$3,000	\$350	1927-S	\$12,000	\$395
1923-S	\$20,000	\$995	1928-D	\$2,000	\$195
1924-D	\$12,500	\$795	1928-S	\$4,250	\$595
1924-S	\$50,000	\$995	1929-D	\$850	\$150
1925-D	\$5,000	\$295	1929-S	\$700	\$125
1925-S	\$20,000	\$995			

Full Gem B.U. M.S. 65 Reds are simply unaffordable to the vast majority of collectors - but you'll love these Very Choice B.U. lustrous eye appealing solid quality mint condition pieces!

PCGS/NGC MS 65-66-67 POPULAR U.S. COINS

ONLY \$39.95 EACH

10 Different\$375.00

20 Different\$735.00

50 Assorted..\$1,750.00

FINALLY...EVERYONE CAN AFFORD THE BEST!

These lots consist of an enormous array of blazing pre 1939 Lincoln Cents, Buffalo Nickels, full split band Mercury Dimes, early Washington Quarters, Franklin Halves, Silver Ike Dollars, etc. All certified and slabbed by PCGS or NGC MS 65-66 or 67. Here is an excellent opportunity to build an impressive collection portfolio of the finest available popular U.S. coins before prices explode from these absurdly low levels. Many of these coins sold for as much as \$300 in past years, and we don't expect this exceptional opportunity to last very long! Act Now!

75 - 150 YEAR OLD

RAILROAD STOCK CERTIFICATES

GUARANTEED AUTHENTIC - VF/MINT CONDITION



Starter Collection: 20 Different...\$149.00

Deluxe group of all different, very high-quality, hand-selected for beauty. Many date back to the Civil War or before. Preserved in railroad archives over the past 150 years in extraordinary condition. Perfect for all collectors of Americana, railroad memorabilia, financial documents, etc. Great for framing, collecting, resale, gifts, or trading. Museum quality.

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4. Payment or charge info must accompany initial order.



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NGC or PCGS MS65
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RETAIL (Est)	SPECIAL	RETAIL (Est)	SPECIAL
\$200	\$99.50	\$1,000	\$497.00
\$400	\$199.00	\$2,000	\$950.00
\$600	\$298.00	\$5,000	\$2,250.00

These lots include the most desirable all different coins from the early twentieth century. Suitable for the most discriminating collectors: Indian and early Lincoln Cents, Liberty and Buffalo Nickels, Barber 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, early Mercury Dimes, Standing Liberty Quarters, early Walking Halves, Morgan and Peace Dollars.

Let us know if you have special preference as to which series you want or don't want. Otherwise, we'll use our best judgement in selecting your coins. Remember, all coins are Choice/Gem B.U., so you'll get the finest quality coins from the GOLDEN AGE OF NUMISMATICS.

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RETAIL (Est)	SPECIAL	RETAIL (Est)	SPECIAL
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\$600	\$298.00	\$5,000	\$2,250.00

We are liquidating a huge hoard of all different, high quality 40-70 year old, very collectible comic books. Rather than list them individually, we are offering them in wholesale lots, and passing the savings on to our valued clientele. You may select SUPERMAN ONLY SUPERMAN & OTHER SUPER-HEROES (Batman, Spider-Man, Fantastic Four, Hulk, Flash, Aquaman, Green Lantern, Flash Gordon, etc.) DISNEY &/or other popular cartoon characters, or COMBINATION of these &/or other popular baby-boomer characters.

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SNEAKING SUSPICION



The .900-fine standard for circulating U.S. silver coins was adopted in early 1837.

Who Benefits from Slipping Palladium into Our Coinage?

by Tom DeLorey

In journalism, there is what we call “the silly season,” traditionally the hot summer months when Congress was in recess and the newspapers had to scrounge elsewhere for nonsense to print. Silly season stories might have been about two-headed cows being born, men biting dogs and the ever-popular eggs being fried on sidewalks. Now, however, thanks to the Internet and longer sessions of Congress, silliness can be printed up to 366 days a year!



The sponsor of H.R. 1698 is Republican Congressman Bill Huizenga of Michigan.

PCGS / CONGRESS.GOV



The rather dull and lusterless Canadian palladium maple leaf bears the same design as the slightly larger silver maple leaf and the slightly smaller platinum maple leaf coins.

One such story popped up in late June of this year, when the Republican Policy Committee (RPC) issued an official-looking *Legislative Digest* press release about H.R. 1698, euphemistically titled the “Bullion and Collectible Coin Production Efficiency and Cost Savings Act.”

That’s the short title. The official title, as introduced, is: “To amend design and content requirements for certain gold and silver coins, and for other purposes.” Remember that phrase “and for other purposes.”

For what it’s worth, the bill’s sponsor is Republican Congressman Bill Huizenga of Michigan.

The RPC press release stated in its Summary that the bill “amends design and

content requirements for certain gold and silver coins produced by the United States Mint. The bill makes minor changes to four coin programs, allowing easier Mint handling and this minor cost savings (sic).”

One change would eliminate the requirement that American Buffalo gold bullion coins have a specific protective covering. No big deal there, though I suspect that this triviality regarding the Gold Buffalo packaging was given top billing to bore people and divert their attention away from the true importance of the bill.

It went on: “Another allows collector coins issued by the Mint to be made of a more-common ‘coinage’ silver containing 91-percent silver, rather than the 90-percent silver alloy now specified by law that

the Mint currently has to have custom-made.” This is the provision that got all the attention on the Internet, as the call for 91-percent silver in the dimes, quarters and halves in our silver proof sets, as well as any commemorative dollars or half dollars to be struck in silver, is totally absurd.

For one thing, .910-fine silver is not “a more common coinage silver.” I am not aware of any country currently using .910-fine silver in anything. For another thing, the text of the bill does not actually call for .910-fine silver. It merely changes the mandatory silver alloy from “90 percent silver and 10 percent copper” to “not less than 90 percent silver,” and eliminates the minimum copper requirement.



In 1967, the Kingdom of Tonga issued a three-piece palladium coronation set, starring the two+ ounce, 48 mm One Hau coin.

The bill also requires that proof and uncirculated versions of the 2016 American Eagle silver coin be edge-lettered to denote the 30th anniversary of the coin's first minting.

I personally have no problem with the latter provision, as it cheaply and simply accomplishes what the Mint did using gimmicky finishes and high prices for the 10th and 20th anniversaries of the gold and silver Eagles. Paradoxically, the bill also eliminates the Secretary of the Treasury's authority to change the designs of gold bullion coins, which does not appear to be an issue in the real world.

Finally, the bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue palladium coins as necessary to meet demand, and to issue collectible versions of them, eliminating the requirement in the old U.S. Code that the Secretary of the Treasury consider the results of an already-completed study on the program before issuing any palladium coins.

This is what I suspect is the true "other purpose" of the bill, carefully hidden among the numismatic piffle.

THE SILVER FINENESS ISSUE, as misrepresented in this politically connected press release, generated quite a bit of uproar in the numismatic press and in various online numismatic forums. Many people got all up in arms about the 91-percent solution to the Mint's alleged difficulty in obtaining .900-fine planchets for the dimes, quarters and halves in the annual silver proof sets and the commemorative silver dollars issued once or twice a year.

In reality, the bill merely gives the Secretary of the Treasury the authority to raise the fineness of the silver coins above 90 percent, and correspondingly lower the copper content below 10 percent. For example, sterling (.925-fine) silver would also be allowed, but not mandated.

The .900-fine standard for circulating U.S. silver coins was adopted in early 1837, and was used through coins dated 1964 (some of which were struck as late as 1966). The purity of the silver coins of 1794 to 1837 was legally set at the slightly lower fineness of .8924, that being the early Mint's best guesstimate of the fineness used for the Spanish colonial silver the U.S. coins were going to circulate alongside.

However, in 1794 and for most of 1795, U.S. silver coins were made at the .900-fine standard, just because the math was easier to calculate in the smelting process. Imagine multiplying things times .8924 without the benefit of a calculator. A bill to authorize this logical change had passed the House in the Third Congress, and the Mint began producing silver coins in 1794



The USSR (CCCP) palladium Ballerina coin have nominal face values of 25 Roubles (one-ounce), 10 Roubles (half-ounce) and 5 Roubles (quarter-ounce).

under the terms of this bill in anticipation of its passage in the Senate.

Unfortunately, it never did pass before the Congress ended on March 3, 1795, and the Fourth Congress never took up the issue. As a result, because the official weight wasn't lowered slightly to offset the higher fineness, people who deposited silver got back slightly fewer coins than they were legally entitled to, causing a minor scandal.

As I mentioned a few months back, various low-grade, or "billon", silver finesses were experimented with from the 1830s through the 1850s, which resulted in a new three-cent piece being struck in .750-fine silver from 1851 through 1853. I suppose it must have been a bother for the Mint to keep its .750-fine bars and scrap separate from its .900-fine bars and scrap—and so, starting in 1854, the coin was struck in .900-fine silver but at a reduced weight.

So committed was the Mint to maintaining the .900-fine standard that when a new "Standard Silver" series was proposed in the late 1860s to replace fractional currency in circulation, the idea called for issuing .900-fine coins at reduced weights, rather than full-weight coins at a reduced fineness. By containing less silver than the regular silver coins, which were being widely hoarded, they could circulate at full face value by government decree.

I CAN SEE WHY THE MINT would want all of the coins in circulation to be of the same fineness, as it would otherwise have to sort coins someday by date or by design when scrapping out worn and/or mutilated old coins for remelting into new coinage.

It must have done that for many years after the 1837 fineness change. (Mixed-fineness coins, such as Canadian 10- and 25-cent coins dated 1967, which come in both .800- and .500-fine silver, need to be completely refined to a pure state before the silver in them can be recycled.)

The U.S. even used a .350-fine silver

alloy in its "wartime silver" five-cent pieces struck from mid-1942 through the end of 1945. Curiously enough, each coin contained 70 percent of the silver found in a silver dime, so that two "warnicks" were nominally worth 14 cents at the time. In reality, this did not matter because the market price of silver was low at the time, and the silver freed up nickel for the war effort.

The Mint did add a large mint mark to the reverses of each "war nickel" to make it easier to recall and re-melt the coins after the war was over—but because the manganese in the alloy made it difficult to refine the silver back out, and the price of silver remained low until the 1960s, the Mint never bothered to reclaim the silver.

The .400-fine net silver content of the silver-clad half dollars of 1965 to 1970 was part of a political compromise between the U.S. Treasury and certain members of Congress from silver-mining states, which allowed the Treasury to remove silver entirely from dimes and quarters. Without the compromise, our supply of these two critical denominations would have disappeared, but leaving some silver in the half dollar doomed that denomination by encouraging hoarding, which eventually got people out of the habit of using halves.

The .400-fine silver-clad Bicentennial quarters, halves and dollars were never intended to circulate. Though the U.S. Mint offered Bicentennial silver sets for years after 1976, the Mint was effectively out of the silver business.

Then, in 1982, the Mint struck a .900-fine commemorative half dollar authorized by Congress, and in 1983 it started striking .900-fine silver commemorative dollars. Another silver commemorative half dollar was struck in 1993, one year after the Mint resumed striking .900-fine silver dimes, quarters and halves in the regular designs for an annual silver proof set.



In 1995 Australia launched a palladium bullion series featuring the Emu, but the series laid an egg and was canceled after three years. The Mint's palladium market study expressed concern that interest in a U.S. palladium coin would be equally short-lived.

As the Mint had gotten rid of its precious metal melting and casting facilities after the end of silver coinage in 1966, this now meant that it had to obtain .900-fine silver planchets from outside vendors.

The new 2015 bill, or at least the RPC commentary written by its backers, suggests that the Mint is now having difficulty getting .900-fine planchets from its vendors. One would reasonably assume that the vendors no longer want to be bothered keeping *their* ingots and scrap segregated by fineness, just as the U.S. Mint had to do with its three-cent-piece ingots and scrap in 1851-53.

As of a few years ago, the U.S. Mint was getting its .900-fine planchets from the Perth Mint in Australia, as well as .999-fine Silver Eagle planchets. If the Perth Mint is no longer willing to maintain a separate .900-fine product line for the United States, then it would appear that our only choice is to make the coins 99.9-percent-fine silver, since that is what the Perth Mint uses for its endless variety of bullion and/or Non-Circulating Legal Tender coins.

It last used .925-fine silver for a series of commemorative five- and 10-dollar coins in the late 1990s. Its only recent exception to the .999 standard was an .800-fine 50-cent piece struck in 2006 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Australia's first decimal (and last circulating silver) half dollar in 1966, which was struck in .800-fine silver.

A request to the Perth Mint for comment on its silver planchet business, and its interest or lack thereof in continuing to supply .900-fine silver planchets to the U.S. Mint went unanswered.

AND NOW FOR THOSE cabalistic "other purposes."

In my humble opinion, all of the design, packaging, edge-inscription and silver-fineness implications of Rep. Huizenga's

READ BY ITSELF, THIS word salad means nothing. Only by looking up the original text of Title 31, USC, section 5112, subsection (v) and making the mandated text changes do we see that part (i) of this bill removes the bolded part of the existing bill:

(1) In general.—Subject to the submission to the Secretary and the Congress of a marketing study described in paragraph (8), beginning not more than 1 year after the submission of the study to the Secretary and the Congress, the Secretary shall mint and issue the palladium coins described in paragraph (12) of subsection (a) in such quantities as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate to meet demand.

In other words, the already-completed marketing study, which said that the U.S. Mint could not issue a palladium bullion coin at a profit at no expense to the taxpayers, shall be ignored and the Secretary of the Treasury "... shall mint and issue the palladium coins ..." Period! Part (iv) eliminates paragraph (8) in the current U.S. Code, which describes how the troublesome study was to be, and indeed was, conducted.

Part (ii) adds the bolded part to this section on the source of the palladium to be used:

(A) In general.—To the greatest extent possible, the Secretary shall acquire bullion for the palladium coins issued under this subsection by purchase of palladium mined from natural deposits in the United States ...

In other words, not only does the Secretary have to buy U.S.-mined palladium for this program, he has to buy it "to the greatest extent possible!" It doesn't matter how many coins he thinks the U.S. Mint can sell, even at a loss, he has to buy any and all palladium "mined from natural deposits in the United States" and mint it. If the struck coins pile up in Treasury vaults, as Morgan dollars did starting in 1878 for the benefit of the silver miners, well, tough titanium!

There is only one natural deposit of palladium in the United States, mined in two locations in Montana by the Stillwater Mining Co. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stillwater_Mining_Company). Stillwater would be the sole beneficiary of Rep. Huizenga's bill.

I have no idea why a congressman from Michigan would introduce a bill that would greatly benefit a mining company in Montana. I made several attempts to contact Rep. Huizenga's press spokesperson for a **continued on page 14**

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1951.....	489.00	1984-S.....	5.00
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1955 FP.....	130.00	1988-S.....	6.00
1956.....	59.00	1989-S.....	5.00
1957.....	25.00	1990-S.....	6.50
1958.....	30.00	1991-S.....	5.00
1959.....	27.00	1992-S.....	5.00
1960.....	27.00	1993-S.....	6.00
1960 SD.....	33.00	1994-S.....	5.50
1961.....	26.00	1995-S.....	11.00
1962.....	24.00	1996-S.....	8.00
1963.....	24.00	1997-S.....	9.00
1964.....	30.00	1998-S.....	10.00
1968-S.....	7.00	1999-S.....	9.50
1969-S.....	6.50	2000-S.....	7.00
1970-S.....	11.00	2001-S.....	11.00
1971-S.....	4.50	2002-S.....	8.00
1972-S.....	5.00	2003-S.....	7.00
1973-S.....	8.50	2004-S.....	12.00
1974-S.....	11.00	2005-S.....	6.00
1975-S.....	11.00	2006-S.....	9.00
1976-S.....	8.00	2007-S.....	16.00
1976-S 3pc.....	25.00	2008-S.....	33.00
1977-S.....	7.00	2009-S.....	23.00
1978-S.....	6.50	2010-S.....	37.00
1979-S.....	7.00	2011-S.....	38.00
1979-S T2.....	55.00	2012-S.....	125.00
1980-S.....	6.00	2013-S.....	33.00
1981-S.....	6.00	2014-S.....	33.00
1982-S.....	5.00	2015-S.....	35.00

CHOICE MINT SETS

Government Issue

1962.....	39.00	1990.....	4.50
1963.....	35.00	1991.....	5.50
1964.....	32.00	1992.....	5.00
1965 SMS.....	11.00	1993.....	6.00
1966 SMS.....	11.00	1994.....	5.00
1967 SMS.....	11.00	1995.....	5.00
1968.....	7.00	1996.....	19.00
1969.....	7.00	1997.....	6.00
1970.....	19.00	1998.....	5.00
1971.....	4.50	1999.....	7.50
1972.....	4.00	2000.....	8.00
1973.....	13.00	2001.....	8.00
1974.....	7.00	2002.....	8.00
1975.....	8.00	2003.....	9.00
1976.....	8.00	2004.....	10.00
1976 3pc.....	18.00	2005.....	9.00
1977.....	7.00	2006.....	10.00
1978.....	8.00	2007.....	21.00
1979.....	7.00	2008.....	49.00
1980.....	7.00	2009.....	22.00
1981.....	11.00	2010.....	24.00
1984.....	5.00	2011.....	24.00
1985.....	5.00	2012.....	72.00
1986.....	8.00	2013.....	21.00
1987.....	5.00	2014.....	34.00
1988.....	5.00	2015.....	33.00
1989.....	4.00		

SILVER PROOF SETS

1992-S.....	18.00	2005-S.....	32.00
1993-S.....	27.00	2006-S.....	32.00
1994-S.....	25.00	2007-S.....	38.00
1995-S.....	54.00	2008-S.....	38.00
1996-S.....	28.00	2009-S.....	50.00
1997-S.....	33.00	2010-S.....	49.00
1998-S.....	24.00	2011-S.....	69.00
1999-S.....	95.00	2012-S.....	204.00
2000-S.....	33.00	2013-S.....	67.00
2001-S.....	44.00	2014-S.....	64.00
2002-S.....	32.00	2015-S.....	59.00
2003-S.....	33.00		
2004-S.....	32.00		

PRESTIGE SETS

1983-S.....	47.00	1991-S.....	37.00
1984-S.....	29.00	1992-S.....	42.00
1986-S.....	27.00	1993-S.....	38.00
1987-S.....	25.00	1994-S.....	38.00
1988-S.....	30.00	1995-S.....	77.00
1989-S.....	35.00	1996-S.....	315.00
1990-S.....	26.00	1997-S.....	59.00

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1883 NC LIBERTY 5¢ CH BU	25.95	19.00
1913 T1 BUFFALO 5¢ CH BU	29.00	4 DIFF PRE 1965 SILVER* WASHINGTON 25¢ PRF
1913 T2 BUFFALO 5¢ CH BU	34.95	25.00
1938 JEFFERSON 5¢ CH BU	12.00	10 DIFFCLAD PRF*WASH 25¢ PRE 1999
1916 MERCURY 10¢ CH BU FSB	45.00	14.00
1917 T1 STAND LIB 25¢ CH BU FH	229.00	5 Diff WALK LIB 50¢* CH AU
1932 WASHINGTON 25¢ CH BU	29.00	95.00
1964 KENNEDY 50¢ GEM PROOF	18.00	10 DIFF FRANKLIN 50¢* CH BU
1971-S TO 1974-S SIL IKE \$ALL 4 CHBU	42.50	189.00
5 DIFF MERCURY 10¢* CH BU	35.00	3 DIFF FRANKLIN 50¢* GEM PROOF
		10 DIFF KENNEDY 50¢* GEM CLAD PROOF

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1878 8F.....	169.00	1883.....	52.00	1889-S.....	265.00	1901-S.....	519.00
1878 7/8.....	180.00	1883-O.....	52.00	1890.....	49.00	1902.....	69.00
1878-S.....	69.00	1883-CC.....	209.00	1890-O.....	79.00	1902-O.....	395.00
1878-CC.....	395.00	1884.....	52.00	1890-S.....	65.00	1902-S.....	379.00
1879.....	59.00	1884-O.....	49.00	1891.....	72.00	1903.....	65.00
1879-O.....	99.00	1884-CC.....	209.00	1891-S.....	79.00	1903-O.....	419.00
1879-S.....	52.00	1885.....	49.00	1896.....	49.00	1904.....	109.00
1880.....	52.00	1885-O.....	49.00	1897.....	49.00	1904-O.....	59.00
1880-O.....	89.00	1885-S.....	279.00	1897-S.....	85.00	1921.....	45.00
1880-S.....	52.00	1885-CC.....	750.00	1898.....	49.00	1921-D.....	49.00
1880-CC.....	560.00	1886.....	49.00	1898-O.....	52.00	1921-S.....	49.00
1881.....	52.00	1886-S.....	359.00	1898-S.....	259.00	1927.....	85.00
1881-O.....	55.00	1887.....	49.00	1899.....	250.00	1928.....	499.00
1881-S.....	49.00	1887-O.....	75.00	1899-O.....	52.00	1928 S.....	175.00
1881-CC.....	519.00	1887-S.....	139.00	1899-S.....	410.00	1922 D.....	52.00
1882.....	52.00	1888.....	55.00	1900.....	49.00	1922 S.....	49.00
1882-CC.....	229.00	1888-O.....	59.00	1900-O.....	55.00	1923 D.....	75.00
1882-O.....	55.00	1888-S.....	319.00	1900-S.....	299.00	1923 S.....	49.00

COMPLETE SETS

(BU Sets in Deluxe Album)

G/VG or Better	CH BU
Lincoln Cents (1941-1958) R / B	6.50.....69.95
Jefferson Nickels (1938-1961)	45.00.....339.00
Roosevelt Dimes (1946-1964)	130.00.....219.00
Washington Quarters (1941-1964)	469.00.....695.00
Walking Liberty Halves (1941-1947)	259.00.....789.00
Franklin Halves (1948-1963)	355.00.....729.00
Peace Dollars (1921-35) F & Better	899.00.....—
Eisenr. Dollars (Incl. Prfs.) 32 Coins	—.....189.00
S.B.A. Dollars (Incl. Prfs.) 18 Coins	—.....269.00

SILVER EAGLES

CH BU	GEM PROOF	CH BU	GEM PROOF
1986.....44.00	57.00	1996.....69.00	69.00
1987.....29.00	59.00	1997.....32.00	70.00
1988.....33.00	59.00	1998.....32.00	59.00
1989.....30.00	59.00	1999.....35.00	60.00
1990.....33.00	59.00	2000.....33.00	57.00
1991.....30.00	60.00	2001.....31.00	60.00
1992.....30.00	60.00	2002.....24.00	57.00
1993.....30.00	95.00	2003.....24.00	57.00
1994.....46.00	190.00	2004.....24.00	57.00
1995.....41.00	70.00	2005.....24.00	54.00

**STRICTLY GRADED
CIRCULATED
TYPE COINS
IN CHOICE GRADES
(DATES OF OUR CHOICE)**

	CH VF	CH XF	AU
1/2¢ DRAPED (1800-08)	215.00	350.00	
1/2¢ CLASSIC (1809-36)	75.00	109.00	
1/2¢ BRAID (1849-57)	85.00	110.00	
1¢ CLASSIC (1808-14)	895.00	\$—	
1¢ CORONET (1816-39)	70.00	135.00	
1¢ BRAIDED (1839-57)	39.00	55.00	
1¢ FLYING EAGLE	49.00	125.00	
1¢ 1859 INDIAN	42.00	99.00	
1¢ IND. C.N. (1860-64)	25.00	49.00	
1¢ IND BR (1864-09)	3.50	8.00	
2¢ PIECE (1864-73)	27.00	39.00	
3¢ NICKEL (1865-81)	21.00	37.00	
3¢ SILVER (1851-73)	65.00	69.00	
1/2¢ BUST (1829-37)	95.00	150.00	
1/2¢ STD STRS (1838-60)	30.00	55.00	
1/2¢ STD ARRS (1853-55)	30.00	59.00	
1/2¢ STD LEG (1860-73)	30.00	49.00	
5¢ SHIELD RAYS (1866-67)	85.00	139.00	
5¢ SHIELD NR (1867-83)	38.00	59.00	
5¢ LIBERTY NC (1883)	9.00	12.00	
5¢ LIBERTY WC (1883-12)	12.00	30.00	
5¢ BUFFALO (1913 T1)	17.00	19.00	
10¢ SM SZ BUST (1829-37)	79.00	259.00	
10¢ STD STARS (1838-60)	25.00	45.00	
10¢ STD ARRS (1853-55)	35.00	49.00	
10¢ STD LEG (1860-91)	21.00	31.00	
10¢ BARBER (1892-1916)	8.00	25.00	
20¢ PIECE (1875-78)	189.00	249.00	
25¢ SM SZ BUST (1830-37)	149.00	369.00	
25¢ STD N.M. (1838-66)	45.00	69.00	
25¢ STD ARRS/RAYS (1853)	45.00	155.00	
25¢ STD ARRS (1854-55)	40.00	74.00	
25¢ STD W.M. (1867-91)	40.00	59.00	
25¢ BARBER (1892-12)	27.00	52.00	
25¢ S.L. T1 (1917)	79.00	109.00	
25¢ S.L. T2 (1925-30)	11.00	29.00	
50¢ CAP BUST (1807-36)	85.00	145.00	
50¢ BUST R.E. (1836-39)	119.00	190.00	
50¢ STD N.M. (1839-66)	80.00	120.00	
50¢ STD A/R (1853)	99.00	240.00	
50¢ STD ARRS (1854-55)	90.00	140.00	
50¢ STD W.M. (1866-91)	75.00	130.00	
50¢ BARBER (1892-1915)	110.00	185.00	
\$1 STD N.M. (1840-66)	390.00	535.00	
\$1 STD W.M. (1867-73)	395.00	529.00	
\$1 TRADE (1873-85)	155.00	260.00	

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HALF DOLLARS**

Choice B.U.



Albany...	279.00
Arkansas...	109.00
Boone...	119.00
Bay Bridge...	169.00
Calif. Jubilee	219.00
Columbian Expo (1893)	29.00
Connecticut...	260.00
Delaware...	260.00
Grant...	135.00
Huey...	135.00
Lexington...	105.00
Maine...	160.00
Oregon Type...	159.00
Pilgrim Type (1920)	.99.00
Rhode Island...	.99.00
San Diego Type (1935-S)	.99.00
Sesquicentennial...	110.00
Stone Mountain...	65.00
Texas Type...	139.00
York...	200.00

**Strictly Graded
Better Date
MORGAN & PEACE
DOLLARS**

Date	VF	XF	AU
1879-CC	295.00	719.00	\$ —
1883-S	40.00	49.00	139.00
1884-S	45.00	55.00	225.00
1885-S	49.00	60.00	119.00
1886-S	85.00	115.00	149.00
1888-S	175.00	190.00	210.00
1890-CC	105.00	139.00	219.00
1891-CC	105.00	139.00	209.00
1891-O	39.00	42.00	48.00
1892	42.00	52.00	82.00
1892-CC	279.00	479.00	699.00
1892-O	42.00	49.00	65.00
1892-S	135.00	310.00	1,500.00
1893	220.00	270.00	390.00
1893-CC	625.00	1,495.00	—
1893-O	349.00	525.00	800.00
1894-O	50.00	95.00	269.00
1894-S	109.00	189.00	479.00
1895-O	375.00	565.00	1,350.00
1895-S	895.00	1,295.00	—
1896-O	40.00	49.00	149.00
1896-S	55.00	220.00	795.00
1897-O	40.00	49.00	95.00
1901	55.00	99.00	290.00
1903-S	180.00	340.00	1,525.00
1904-S	59.00	190.00	525.00
1921 Peace	99.00	119.00	149.00
1928	319.00	369.00	399.00
1934-S	79.00	169.00	485.00

MORGAN DOLLAR

Choice Brilliant Uncirculated
Starter Groups



5 Diff Pre 1900

Ch BU*

\$ "P" Mints

\$239.00

5 Diff. Pre 21

Ch BU*

\$ "O" Mints

\$239 .00

5 Diff. Pre 21 Ch BU*

\$ "S" Mints

\$269.00

3 Diff. "CC" Ch BU*

\$ Dollars

\$629.00

20 Diff. Dates

Ch BU*

\$ Pre 21

\$979.00 / Roll

*Dates of Our Choice

FRANKLIN HALVES*

CH	CH/Brilliant	Uncirculated
1948	15.00	23.00
1948-D	17.00	25.00
1949	17.00	32.00
1949-D	35.00	69.00
1949-S	39.00	89.00
1950	17.00	32.00
1950-D	19.00	29.00
1951	17.00	19.00
1951-D	22.00	35.00
1951-S	22.00	29.00
1952	17.00	19.00
1952-D	17.00	19.00
1952-S	—	85.00
1953	19.00	25.00
1953-D	17.00	19.00
1953-S	—	39.00
1954	19.00	19.00
1954-D	19.00	19.00
1954-S	22.00	28.00
1955	18.00	24.00
1956	17.00	21.00
1957	17.00	21.00
1957-D	17.00	22.00
1958	15.00	19.00
1958-D	15.00	19.00
1959	15.00	19.00
1959-D	15.00	19.00
1960	15.00	19.00
1960-D	15.00	19.00
1961	15.00	18.00
1961-D	15.00	18.00
1962	14.00	18.00
1962-D	14.00	18.00
1963	11.00	15.00
1963-D	11.00	15.00
1964	11.00	15.00
1964-D	11.00	15.00

WALKING LIBERTY*



Superior
Quality!

CH	CH/Brilliant	Uncirculated
1941	21.00	29.00
1941-D	21.00	35.00
1941-S	29.00	79.00
1942	21.00	29.00
1942-D	23.00	42.00
1942-S	23.00	45.00
1943	21.00	29.00
1943-D	25.00	49.00
1943-S	24.00	49.00
1944	21.00	37.00
1944-D	24.00	49.00
1944-S	35.00	49.00
1945	23.00	29.00
1945-D	24.00	35.00
1945-S	35.00	49.00
1946	24.00	34.00
1946-D	42.00	55.00
1946-S	45.00	55.00
1947	24.00	49.00
1947-D	32.00	59.00

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GEM PROOF SINGLES

DATE	CENTS	NICKELS	DIMES	QTRS	HALVES
1956	5.00		11.00	18.00	
1957	4.00	7.00	7.00	12.00	24.00
1958	5.00		6.00	12.00	
1959	3.50	4.75	6.00	12.00	24.00
1960	2.50	1.50	6.00	12.00	22.00
1960SMDT	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1961	1.00	1.00	4.00	8.75	24.00
1962	1.00	1.00	4.00	8.75	24.00
1963	1.00	1.00	4.00	8.75	24.00
1964	1.00	1.00	4.00	8.75	24.00
1965SMS	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.75	6.00
1966SMS	1.00	1.50	1.25	1.75	7.50
1967SMS	1.00	2.00	1.75	2.75	9.75
1968S	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	7.00
1969S	1.00	1.75	1.00	1.25	7.00
1970S	1.50	1.00	0.75	1.00	8.50
1970S SMDT	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1971S	1.00	2.25	1.25	1.00	2.25
1972S	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.00	2.25
1973S	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.50
1974S	1.00	1.50	1.00	1.25	2.25
1975S	4.00	1.50	1.25	-----	-----
1976S	2.50	1.50	1.25	1.00	1.25
1976S 40% PRF	-----	-----	-----	5.00	7.00
1977S	2.00	1.50	1.75	1.25	1.50
1978S	2.00	1.50	0.90	1.25	1.50
1979S (I)	2.50	1.25	0.85	1.00	1.25
1979S (II)	4.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	-----
1980S	1.00	0.75	0.85	1.00	1.95
1981S (I)	1.00	0.85	0.85	1.00	1.75
1981S (II)	-----	-----	-----	-----	13.00
1982S (I)	2.25	1.75	1.25	1.50	2.25
1982S (II)	-----	3.95	-----	-----	-----
1983S	1.50	2.00	1.00	1.75	2.75
1984S	3.75	3.50	1.50	2.00	3.75
1985S	3.95	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.25
1986S	3.50	5.00	3.00	3.00	2.00
1987S	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.25	2.50
1988S	3.00	5.25	2.00	2.00	3.25
1989S	3.00	2.75	2.75	2.00	4.50
1990S	2.50	2.95	1.50	3.50	2.00
1991S	4.00	2.50	1.75	1.25	2.50
1992S	1.50	1.25	2.00	2.50	4.00
1992S SILVER	-----	-----	5.00	9.00	17.00
1993S	2.50	1.00	4.00	1.50	4.00
1993S SILVER	-----	-----	6.00	10.00	24.00
1994S	2.00	1.75	4.00	2.00	6.00
1994S SILVER	-----	-----	6.00	10.00	22.00
1995S	2.00	3.50	9.95	6.00	12.00
1995S SILVER	-----	-----	10.00	10.00	49.00
1996S	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.50	4.95
1996S SILVER	-----	-----	6.00	9.00	23.00
1997S	2.50	3.00	5.00	6.50	7.00
1997S SILVER	-----	-----	12.00	10.00	25.00
1998S	3.00	2.00	3.00	5.00	8.50
1998S SILVER	-----	-----	5.00	10.50	17.00
DATE	CENTS	NICKELS	DIMES	QTRS	HALVES
	5 PC SETS				
1999S	2.50	2.00	2.00	5.00	8.00
1999S SILVER	-----	-----	9.00	89.00	29.00
2000S	1.00	1.00	1.50	3.00	3.00
2000S SILVER	-----	-----	4.95	29.00	15.00
2001S	2.00	1.50	2.00	6.00	6.00
2001S SILVER	-----	-----	4.95	38.00	16.00
2002S	1.50	1.00	1.50	4.00	3.00
2002S SILVER	-----	-----	5.00	24.00	13.00
2003S	1.50	1.50	1.50	3.00	4.00
2003S SILVER	-----	-----	5.00	24.00	12.00
2004S	1.50	peace\$3.95	3.00	3.00	6.00
2004S SILVER	-----	keel \$3.95	5.00	24.00	12.00
2005S	1.50	buff \$3.95	1.25	3.00	2.50
2005S SILVER	-----	ocean\$3.95	5.00	20.00	15.00
2006S	1.75	2.25	1.25	5.00	4.50
2006S SILVER	-----	-----	5.00	19.00	16.00
2007S	1.50	2.00	1.25	4.00	4.00
2007S SILVER	-----	-----	6.00	24.00	16.00
2008S	-----	3.50	4.00	40.00	17.00
2008S SILVER	-----	-----	6.00	25.00	22.00
2009S	20.00	1.50	1.50	7.00	2.00
4 PC CENT	-----	-----	-----	25.00	23.00
2009S SILVER	-----	-----	-----	30.00	15.00
2010S	3.50	2.50	4.00	20.00	14.00
2010S SILVER	-----	-----	-----	30.00	15.00
2011S	5.50	4.50	6.00	18.00	17.00
2011S SILVER	-----	-----	9.00	40.00	28.00

1) No minimum order. 2) All coins are graded according to ANA grading standards. 3) All coins are guaranteed genuine and carry a thirty-day return privilege. 4) Postage and handling are additional. For orders within the continental U.S., please include 7.00. For orders outside the continental U.S., please add ample postage. We will refund any overage. Canadian orders will be accepted only when drawn on U.S. banks. 5) All prices subject to change due to market fluctuations. 6) California residents please add 8.75% sales tax. 7) Personal checks OK, but please allow time to clear. 8) Discover, Visa & MasterCard accepted. You must have a penciled imprint of your name, numbers & expiration date. 9) Postal money orders only and charge cards sent ASAP. 10) Returns must be in original containers.

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Continued from page 11



The U.S. used a .350-fine silver alloy in its "wartime silver" five-cent pieces struck from mid-1942 through the end of 1945.

comment, but received no reply, not even to my simple first question: "Is the Representative himself a coin collector?"

(Perhaps I should have asked him if the congressman had received a campaign donation from the Stillwater Mining Co., or if he owns stock in it. That might have gotten his attention, and me a reply, but I digress.)

PALLADIUM COINS ARE a small footnote in the vast world of precious metals and coinage. Old-time collectors like myself might remember the magnificently huge Tonga cased set which made waves in 1967 when it commemorated the coronation of King Tupou IV. Its giant one-Hau coin contained 64 grams of .980-fine palladium, for a net content of approximately two ounces. The ½ Hau and ¼ Hau were proportionately smaller.

The coins' edges were lettered "HISTORICALLY THE FIRST PALLADIUM COINAGE," which appears to be technically incorrect as Sierra Leone had issued 100 each palladium off-metal strikes of its gold 5th Anniversary of Independence ¼-, ½- and one-Golde coins dated 1961-1966.

One can, of course, argue that the Sierra Leone palladium strikes are not regular issues, but they do exist. The Tonga coins were well publicized, along with matching round silver-foil postage stamps—and so, to many collectors, they were the first palladium coins.

Since that time, there have been various palladium bullion coins and collector novelty coins, some with credible mintage figures appropriate to bullion issues and some in the low hundreds. Rather than list them all, I refer you to this site: www.renefinn.de/English/palladiumtabeng.html

Note the U.S.S.R./Russian coins starting in 1988. For many years, these amply met the small demand for palladium bullion in coin shops, though I always found that the Ballerina designs sold better than the

historical designs. The ¼- or ½-ounce-size Ballerinas set in a bezel made a popular jewelry item.

The Perth Mint, which has struck the gold Nugget/Kangaroo series from 1987 to date, the platinum Koala series from 1988 to 2000 and the silver Kookaburra series from 1990 to date, attempted to launch a palladium Emu series in 1996. Five thousand coins were struck annually from 1996 to 1998, each year with a different design as per the other bullion series. However, according to the Perth Mint's website, only 5,257 pieces out of the 15,000 mintage had been sold as of November 2010.

The Royal Canadian Mint launched a palladium Maple Leaf program in 2005. Approximately 220,000 pieces were minted between 2005 and 2009, with limited production in the third year and none at all in the fourth, after which the market was glutted and no new coins needed to be struck until 2015.

I remember selling them when I worked in a coin shop and cursing the fact that they bore the same Maple Leaf design as the platinum Maple Leafs. Though the less-dense palladium coins are noticeably larger than the platinum coins, we had to put stickers on them both so that we did not accidentally deliver a platinum coin for a palladium sale.

THE FULL 2012 Palladium Market Study, which H.R. 1698 would plonk down the memory hole, can be found on the Mint's website at: www.usmint.gov/about_the_mint/PDFs/PO87001_PalladiumStudy.pdf.

Boiled down, it says that due to the novelty of the program, the Mint might sell up to 100,000 palladium bullion coins in its first year, but that demand would be expected to fall quickly as it did with the Canadian palladium program.

A summary can be found on the Mint's website, here: www.usmint.gov/about_

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Mixed-fineness coins, such as Canadian 25-cent pieces dated 1967, need to be completely refined to a pure state before the silver in them can be recycled.

the_mint/?action=palladiumreport.

The summary states: "It is unlikely that there will be sufficient demand for a U.S. Mint palladium bullion coin and such a program would most likely not be possible to undertake profitably."

As stated in the long report, the Mint would have to charge such a high premium over the bullion value of the coins to cover expenses that it could not possibly compete with other palladium products, such as Canadian Maple Leafs or bullion bars.

The summary goes on to say: "It is unlikely that there will be sufficient demand for a U.S. Mint palladium numismatic (proof or uncirculated) coin, but such a program could be undertaken profitably."

This latter profitability reflects the fact that the Mint can and does charge outrageous premiums for its proof gold and platinum collector coins, and could presumably gouge likewise on the palladium collector coins. The summary did not use the word "gouge."

H.R. 1698 was introduced in the House on March 25, 2015. It passed by a voice vote on June 23, and the following day was referred to the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

As of this writing, there has been no further action, though by the time this reaches print it might have become law. You can do a search for H.R. 1698 to see what has happened to it, and if necessary start saving up for yet another unnecessary, but costly, U.S. Mint product. ☐

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Langbord Update



An update to my article in the July issue on the Langbord 1933 double eagles: On July 28, 2015, the full U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals agreed to hear the U.S. Mint's appeal of a three-judge panel's April 17th ruling, which had awarded the coins to the Langbord family. The April 17th ruling is thus vacated, and the government's vendetta continues!



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1916 SILVER COINS



Adolph Weinman, Hermon Mac Neil and Albin Polasek were the three artists invited to take part in the limited design competition.

Three Barber Coins Get Redesigned

by Ed Reiter

It wasn't the best of times; much of the world was at war. For Americans, though, it wasn't the worst of times either.

War was raging half a world away, but here at home there were other diversions. Baseball, for example. The Detroit Tigers' Ty Cobb was winning his ninth straight American League batting title, but the Red Sox were World Champions—helped by a 20-year-old pitcher named Babe Ruth.

Vaudeville was drawing Americans to the nation's theaters—along with those newfangled silent movies. Mack Sennett's Keystone Comedies were making millions laugh, and Charles Spencer "Charlie" Chaplin was fast becoming the public's favorite "funny man."

Movies could also be serious; that new film by D.W. Griffith, "The Birth of a Nation," was packing them in at theaters from coast to coast—even at the startling admission price of two dollars. Ragtime was all the rage in popular music, and a new kind of music was being heard, too: something the nation would soon know as "jazz."

In San Francisco, a major exposition was being held to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal. In New York, sightse-



Silver "Mercury" dime (top) and gold replica design



Silver Standing Liberty quarter (top) and gold replica design



Silver Walking Liberty half dollar (top) and gold replica design

ers were marveling at the recently completed Woolworth Building—at 60 stories the tallest inhabited structure in the world. And in Washington, D.C., Thomas Woodrow Wilson, 28th president of the United States, was watchfully awaiting developments abroad.

THE YEAR WAS 1915, and while it wasn't altogether wonderful—remember the *Lusitania*?—it was nonetheless a stimulating time for the United States and her nearly 100 million citizens.

It was a time of transition: from horse and buggy to horseless carriage ... farm to city ... domestic tranquility to foreign entanglement ... peace to war.

The nation's coinage reflected her restless mood. Within a mere eight years, imaginative new designs had been introduced on six different U.S. coins, supplanting the serene, sedate—and generally stale—19th-century portraits which preceded them.

President Theodore Roosevelt had triggered the upheaval when he commissioned Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the brilliant Irish-American sculptor, to prepare new coinage designs. Saint-Gaudens' double eagle and eagle (\$10 and \$20 gold pieces), which first appeared in 1907, had been widely acclaimed for their beauty. They had been followed in 1908 by the new half eagle and quarter eagle (\$5 and \$2½ gold pieces) of Bela Lyon Pratt, with their intriguing incuse designs.

Victor D. Brenner's Lincoln cent, in 1909, and James Earle Fraser's Buffalo nickel, in 1913, had broadened the dimensions of the coinage overhaul, putting new coins in the pockets and purses of practically every American.

BY 1915, UNCLE SAM had updated and upgraded the designs of all but four of his coins. Only the silver coins—the Morgan dollar and the Barber half dollar, quarter and dime—dated back to before 1900.

The silver dollar hadn't been issued since 1904, when the supply of bullion earmarked for its coinage was exhausted. As a result, there was no urgency—indeed, no practical reason—to change its design.

The Barber coins were another matter. The popularity of the new gold coins, cent and nickel had stirred sentiment for revising these silver coins, too—and but for a legal roadblock, this might have been done even sooner. The roadblock was the Coinage Act of Sept. 26, 1890, which stipulated that "no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than



Treasury Secretary William Gibbs McAdoo



Mint Director Robert W. Woolley



President Woodrow Wilson

once in 25 years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die or hub for the same coin."

The Barber coins had first appeared in 1892. Their designs had been approved, though, in 1891—so under the terms of the coinage law, they could be replaced, without special legislation from Congress, in 1916.

Redesign of the three silver coins had doubtless been under discussion for some time. Planning didn't begin in earnest, however, until the fall of 1915, when Treasury Secretary William Gibbs McAdoo and Mint Director Robert W. Woolley formally agreed to replace the Barber designs and to seek their replacements outside the Mint.

In deciding to bypass the Mint's own staff, McAdoo and Woolley had several key factors in mind. To begin with, public reaction to the six new 20th-century coins already introduced—all designed by sculptors outside the Mint—had been generally very favorable, and the climate seemed right for continuing this approach. Then, too, the designer of the Barber coins, Charles E. Barber, still held away as the Mint's chief sculptor-engraver, and it seemed unlikely that he or his staff could come up with the kind of fresh new designs being sought.

A precedent of sorts had been set, in any case, three years earlier, when an outsider—James Fraser—had been commissioned to design the new nickel, which replaced another of Barber's coinage works, the Liberty Head five-cent piece.

SO IT WAS, ON OCT. 12, 1915, that Woolley made arrangements for a meeting with the Commission of Fine Arts to discuss details of obtaining the three new designs.

Col. William W. Harts, the commission's secretary and executive officer, confirmed the arrangements in a letter to Woolley that day.

"In confirmation of the verbal appointment made with you this morning for a conference with the Commission of Fine Arts at their next meeting," Harts wrote, "it gives me pleasure to advise that I have reserved the hour of eleven o'clock on the morning of November 19th next for this purpose."

Out of that conference came a momentous decision: For the first time, the government would hold a design competition limited, by invitation, to selected sculptors of recognized distinction.

Only once before, shortly after passage of the 1890 coinage law, had such a competition been seriously considered. On that occasion, the Treasury Department had sent letters to 10 of the nation's most distinguished artists, among them Saint-Gaudens, inviting them to submit coinage designs.

The idea had been abandoned, however, when the artists, after conferring among themselves, sent a joint reply stipulating five conditions for their participation, among them the payment of \$100 for each sketch design submitted or \$500 for each completed model.

Subsequently, the Treasury had held a public competition, the first in U.S. coinage history, but the entries had all been rejected. The task of designing the new coins had fallen eventually to Barber, and the three coins he fashioned were, ironically, the very coins to be replaced through the coming contest.

IN A LETTER DATED DEC. 27, 1915, Mint Director Woolley notified the superin-

tendent of the Philadelphia Mint, A.M. Joyce, that three sculptors—Albin Polasek, Hermon A. MacNeil and Adolph A. Weinman, all from New York—had been commissioned to submit designs for the three silver coins.

"Please introduce them to Mr. Barber," Woolley wrote, "and request him to give them all possible information regarding the practical side of designing. I have assured them that all inquiries will be cheerfully responded to, and that in their efforts to create the best possible design they will receive from Mr. Barber and others at the Philadelphia Mint at all times hearty cooperation."

Subsequent correspondence suggests that Barber was far from helpful—which hardly was surprising, since he was, in effect, being asked to serve as pallbearer at the funeral of coins he had fathered. In a last-ditch effort to salvage the situation, he prepared new designs of his own, but these were rejected by McAdoo—and Woolley.

"I beg to express the appreciation of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself of the very beautiful designs submitted by you," Woolley wrote to Barber on March 3, 1916, "and to thank you for your deep interest in the matter."

The same letter, however, notified Barber that other sculptors' designs had been selected.

THE THREE SCULPTORS chosen to compete were all men of prominence in the art world of the day.

MacNeil had won special acclaim for his naturalistic works on Indian subjects—primarily large sculptures, but also including a much admired medal for the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo in 1901.



The British ocean liner RMS Lusitania was sunk by a German U-boat in 1915.

Weinman was best known for his monumental and architectural sculpture, and had embellished his reputation two years earlier when he executed a powerful statue of Abraham Lincoln for the Lincoln Monument in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Polasek, a man whose name is virtually unknown to coin collectors today, was by all odds the least known of the three competitors at that time, as well. For one thing, at 36 he was the youngest—13 years younger than MacNeil and nine years younger than Weinman—and had had less time to build a reputation.

He was greatly gifted, though, and had gained considerable attention in the months preceding the contest—first when he received the George B. Widener gold medal from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1914, then when he won a silver medal at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. In 1916, he would become head of the sculpture department at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Of the three contestants, only MacNeil was American by birth. Weinman was born in Karlsruhe, Germany in 1870, and came to the United States in 1880. Polasek was born in Frenstat, a city in what later became Czechoslovakia, in 1879 and came to the U.S. in 1901.

Curiously, though, MacNeil—a native of Everett, Massachusetts—had studied abroad more extensively than either of the other two artists. He had studied in Paris, at the Académie Julian and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, and in Rome, as a Rinehart Scholarship winner, at the American Academy.

Polasek had divided his art studies between the American Academy in Rome and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Weinman had studied at Cooper Union in New York, where one of his instructors was Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

DIRECTOR WOOLLEY summoned the sculptors to the New York Assay Office on Dec. 27, 1915 to review the ground rules

for the design competition. He put these in writing the following day in identical letters to each of the three.

Following are excerpts from that letter:

“... I beg to commission you to submit designs under the following conditions:

“First: That all requirements of law relating to dimensions, designs, devices and legends shall be complied with.

“Second: That you are to submit several designs before April 15, 1916, and it is understood that under no circumstances will this time limit be extended.

“Third: That if, after the submission of a reasonable number of designs none, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Mint, is considered suitable, you will be paid the sum of \$300 in complete and full satisfaction of your services.

“Fourth: That if the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, decides to adopt one of your designs, you are to be paid the sum of \$2,000 upon acceptance, it being understood that you are to supply the Mint at your own expense with a satisfactory working model.

“I beg to state in this connection that it is the intention of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Mint to ask the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to the suitability and appropriateness of the designs submitted by you.”

At least two of the sculptors—Weinman and Polasek—responded to this letter by return mail, seeking to clarify the terms of their commissions. Woolley answered these inquiries in separate letters dated Jan. 4, 1916.

Weinman and Polasek both were uncertain, it appears, as to whether they should tailor each design for one specific coin—that is to say, whether they should submit general designs suitable for use on any of the three coins or strive to create separate



The Ford Model T and the airplane were symbols of the new age then dawning.



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dime designs, quarter designs and half dollar designs.

Weinman, perhaps in the interest of reducing his workload, asked that his commission be limited to just one coin. In his reply, however, Woolley stipulated that he and McAdoo "must reserve the right to use an accepted design on any coin, or on all three coins if we think best." Weinman's request was ironic—for as things turned out, his designs were chosen for two of the coins.

IN DIRECTING EACH sculptor to submit "several designs," Woolley wasn't simply seeking a larger selection. He also had in mind a technical consideration: By law, it would be necessary to depict an eagle on both the quarter and the half dollar, but there wouldn't be room for an eagle on the dime. Therefore, each sculptor would have to submit at least two different reverse designs—one suitable for the quarter or half dollar, and one the Mint could use on the dime.

Up to that time, the three subsidiary silver coins all had carried the same basic design, with the monotony being broken only on the reverse of the dime, where the eagle gave way to a simple statement of value.

In this competition, however, distinctive designs were being sought for all three coins. A Treasury press release on May 30, 1916, announcing adoption of the three new designs, explained why:

"Director Woolley suggested varying the designs in order that the half dollar might be given more individuality and thus restore its waning popularity. Strange to say, it has practically fallen into disuse."

In commissioning three sculptors, Woolley and McAdoo clearly intended that one coin should come from each. Woolley left no doubt about this in his Jan. 4 letters to Weinman and Polasek.

"In asking to have several designs," he told Weinman, "I thought thereby to increase the probability of at least one set of designs of each sculptor being accepted."

He said much the same thing in his letter to Polasek:

"In asking for several designs, I have thought thereby to make practically certain the acceptance of at least one set of designs from each of the three sculptors invited to execute commissions."

FOR WHATEVER REASON, that wasn't the way things worked out. On March 10, 1916, more than a month before the announced deadline for submitting entries, Woolley wrote to Superintendent Joyce at the Philadelphia Mint instructing

him to pay Polasek \$300 from the mint's contingency fund, "covering the cost of preparing plaster casts for the proposed new coins."

Contracts had been awarded to Weinman for the dime and half dollar and to MacNeil for the quarter.

According to the May 30th press release, the winning designs had been chosen from "more than fifty" sketch models. They had won the approval not only of McAdoo and Woolley, but also of the Fine Arts Commission, which, according to the press release, had found them "most satisfactory from an artistic point of view."

Technical problems delayed release of the coins until late in the year, and as weeks and months passed, the American public—particularly the coin collecting public—grew ever more curious about them. Finally, on Oct. 24, the first examples of the new dime were released.

"I am delighted with the new dime!" exclaimed Farran Zerbe, a well-known San Francisco hobby leader.

"The new dime is the best piece of work that the United States Mint has turned out in a century," J.W. Scott of New York City, another prominent numismatist, declared.

The obverse of the coin features a youthful Miss Liberty wearing a winged cap which, the artist explained, is meant to symbolize "liberty of thought." The reverse depicts the fasces, an ancient symbol of authority with a battle-ax atop it to represent preparedness and an olive branch beside it to represent peace.

It's generally believed that Weinman based his Winged Liberty design on a bust he had done in 1913 of Elsie Kachel Stevens while she and her husband, poet Wallace Stevens, were tenants in a New York apartment house the sculptor owned.

WEEKS MORE PASSED after the dime's release, with still no sign of the quarter or half dollar. Finally, late in November, the first half dollars appeared; late in December, the first quarters followed.

The half dollar, like the dime before it, was well received by the public. The *New York Sun*, for example, pronounced it a "lively" coin typifying "hustle," while the *Boston Herald* said it had a "forward look on its face."

Its obverse shows a full-length figure of Liberty striding toward the dawn of a new day, clad in the Stars and Stripes and carrying branches of laurel and oak—symbols of civil and military glory. Its reverse portrays an eagle perched on a mountain crag, wings unfolded in a pose suggestive of power, with a sapling of mountain pine—symbolic of America—springing from a rift in the rock.

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The new quarter bespoke preparedness—a theme much on Americans' minds as 1916 drew to a close with the likelihood growing that the nation would be drawn into the Great War (known only later as World War I). As the Treasury stated in its press release announcing the design, this coin was “intended to typify in a measure the awakening interest of the country to its own protection.”

The obverse shows Liberty—full-length, as on the new half dollar—stepping forward to the gateway of the country, on whose walls are inscribed the words “In God We Trust.” Her upraised left arm bears a shield in the attitude of protection, with its covering being withdrawn; her right hand holds the olive branch of peace. The reverse portrays a majestic eagle in full flight.

Except for one detail of its design, the quarter might have been greeted in the same approving manner as the dime and half dollar were. A segment of American society was outraged, however, to discover that MacNeil had bared Liberty’s bosom. The outcry caused the Mint to encase her the following year in a coat of chain mail.

Dora Doscher, the model for MacNeil’s Liberty, was known ever after as “The Girl on the Quarter.”

THE “STANDING LIBERTY” quarter had a brief lifespan by U.S. coinage standards, remaining in production only until 1930. The “Mercury” dime and “Walking Liberty” half dollar fared better, lasting until 1945 and 1947, respectively. Conceived on the eve of U.S. involvement in the First World War, they met their demise shortly after the end of the Second.

All three coins are long since gone from circulation—but though they’re out of sight, they’re far from out of mind. Collectors prize them highly for their beauty, and demand plus scarcity have combined to give early issues in choice condition considerable premium value.

The new coins’ late release in 1916 helped create two especially scarce issues with that date: the 1916-D dime, with a mintage of only 264,000, and the 1916 quarter, of which a mere 52,000 were made.

Looking back a century later, Ty Cobb, “The Birth of a Nation,” Woodrow Wilson and World War I all seem long ago and far away. The three new coins of 1916 are still very much with us, though, as coveted collectibles—and still as fresh and exciting as they were when the Mint first made them.

Through them, that long ago, far away era remains alive today in the nation’s collective memory. ☺

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A Golden Rebirth

Classic 1916 Coins Get Done Over for 2016



The gold Walking Liberty half dollar will likely have an "S" mintmark on its obverse, where the mintmark was originally located for this series.

by Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez

The clocks will be turning back at the United States Mint in 2016. For the first time since 1929, the Mint will simultaneously produce a trio of coins bearing the designs from the Winged Liberty Head (or "Mercury") dime, the Standing Liberty quarter and the Walking Liberty half dollar.

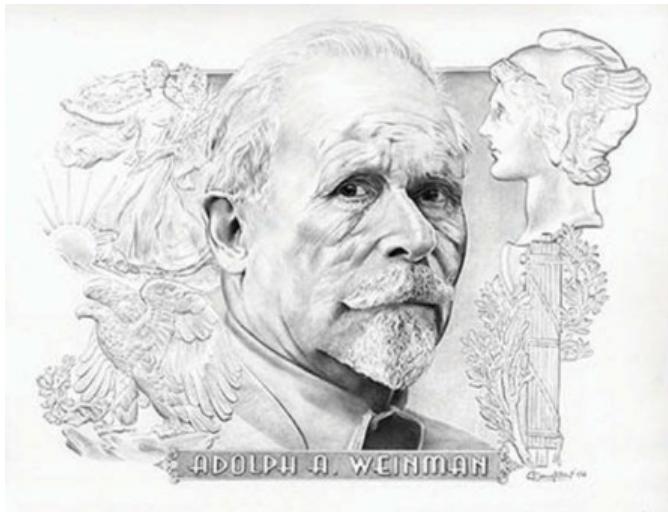
The occasion is the centennial of the initial release of the three beloved designs, which debuted on the dime, quarter and half dollar in 1916.



Members of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee have weighed heavily in favor of reproducing the Standing Liberty quarter according to the original 1916 quarter.



The 2016 Mercury dime is proposed as a one-tenth ounce gold bullion coin.



▲ Adolph A. Weinman's Mercury dime and Walking Liberty half dollar helped earn the engraver wide acclaim and a permanent spot among numismatics' legends.

► Hermon A. MacNeil's two most famous works include the Standing Liberty quarter and "Justice, the Guardian of Liberty," a statue seen on the east pediment of the United States Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C.

And it's cause for celebration among coin hobbyists.

However, the three coins, which were produced by the millions as 90-percent-silver issues during much of the first half of the 20th century, will not be reissued in silver. Rather, the three designs will re-emerge on 24-karat (.999-fine) gold coins, a proposition first presented before the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) at the group's meeting on Jan. 28, 2015.

Adolph A. Weinman's "Mercury" dime and Walking Liberty half dollar designs and Hermon A. MacNeil's Standing Liberty quarter motif are slated for production sometime in 2016, though release dates for the new coins have not been confirmed by any source as of this writing.

One of the most intriguing developments as far as numismatic purists are concerned is that the three gold coins will not merely be uniform-sized representations on, say, one-ounce gold planchets. They will actually be reissued in denominations and diameters that correspond to those of the original coins.

That means the gold dime will measure 17.9 millimeters, the gold quarter will have a width of 24.3 millimeters and the half dollar will come in at 30.6 millimeters. Thus, these will be fractional gold pieces with symbolically significant weights of one-tenth ounce for the gold dime, one-quarter ounce for the quarter and one-half ounce for the half dollar.

What remains to be revealed is precisely

how thick these new gold coins will be. CCAC members agree that they would rather see the U.S. Mint stay faithful to the original diameters of the coins and instead work with the thicknesses of the coins as necessary.

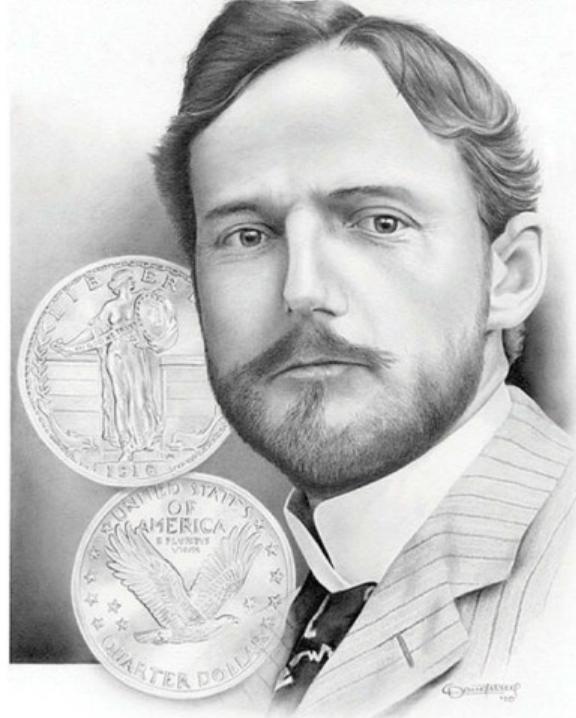
The three iconic silver coins replaced the Liberty Head (or "Barber") coins designed by Mint Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber in 1892, and all are widely rated among the finest examples of U.S. coinage art. The prospect of seeing their acclaimed designs reappear on new U.S. coins has caused a major buzz throughout the hobby.

But this isn't the first time the Mint has turned to classic coin designs from the nation's past for use on modern coinage. In recent years, the numismatic community has been growing accustomed to seeing classic coin designs re-emerge on modern coinage with late 20th- and early 21st-century dates.

The trend started in 1986, when the Mint introduced the American Eagle gold and silver bullion coins. Weinman's stunning Walking Liberty half dollar obverse design was chosen for the obverse of the Silver Eagle, while Augustus Saint-Gaudens' magnificent rendering of Miss Liberty, which graced double eagles (\$20 gold pieces) from 1907 through 1933, appeared on the obverses of the four Gold Eagle coins.

In later years, the Mint would also revive other beloved coin designs, including James Earle Fraser's Buffalo nickel

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design, which was reused on the American Buffalo commemorative silver dollar in 2001 and has appeared on a special series of popular gold bullion coins since 2006.

Over the course of 2007, 2008 and 2010, the Mint dusted off the Draped Bust, Capped Bust, Coronet and Seated Liberty obverse designs from the 19th century for use on a handful of First Spouse coins corresponding to the chronological terms of presidents who were not married during their time in the Oval Office.

Perhaps most notably, the Saint-Gaudens double eagle, widely regarded as the most beautiful coin in the world, was faithfully reproduced by the U.S. Mint in 2009 on an ultra-high-relief 24-karat coin.

Just last year, the Kennedy half dollar was honored on its golden anniversary with the special release as a dual-dated 1964-2014 gold coin, which saw fervent buying activity and heavy speculation, particularly in the certified "Early Release" and "First Strike" market immediately after the coin's much-heralded debut.

Why gold?

One of the first things many numismatic observers point out about the proposed 2016 coinage is that the designs being honored by the new coins were originally minted in silver. So, why not strike the new coins in silver, too?

This topic was actually first formally debated during the Jan. 28 CCAC meeting, when the gold coin proposal was presented to the committee.



The Winged Liberty Head, or “Mercury,” dime was designed by Adolph A. Weinman in 1916. The coin, which replaced the Barber dime, was struck until 1945.



Hermon A. MacNeil's Standing Liberty quarter was produced from 1916 through 1930 and replaced Charles E. Barber's Liberty Head (or “Barber”) quarter.

“I love the idea of a silver product if at all possible,” said Dr. Herman Viola, a member of the CCAC.

Then-Committee Chairman Gary Marks, realizing that the Mint also has the authority to strike platinum coins in any denomination, suggested the production of platinum coins to replicate the silver color of the original Mercury dime, Standing Liberty quarter and Walking Liberty half dollar.

“You wouldn’t sell a million of those,” CCAC member Erik Jansen replied. “No,” Marks said, “but you’d sell a number.”

One question that everyday numismatists surely are wondering to themselves is, what would be the cost of buying the 2016 gold coins? While the centennial coinage is certain to have an enthusiastic market, would that market be larger if the Mint were to strike silver versions, too?

A discussion about this subject on the popular coin community website CoinTalk.com suggests that most coin collectors, at least among those who chimed in on the issue, are happy that the 1916 silver designs are being reproduced on modern-day coinage. But the gold composition of these new coins might keep some cash-strapped buyers from ordering any.

“I love the idea, but I think issuing [the coins] in gold is going to put them way out of reach for a lot of collectors, which seems to me will just disenfranchise the collector community even more,” said a CoinTalk user whose handle is phankins11.

“These designs were issued in silver, so why not issue them in silver, which hear-

kens back to that age of design and puts them in reach of a lot more collectors?”

Derkerlegand, spirityoda and dwhiz all said the U.S. Mint should issue them in “silver and gold.” Meanwhile, jeffB took the options a little further and satirically suggested, “Why stop [at silver and gold]? Colorize them! Holograms! Heck, why not moving parts so that Lady Liberty’s legs can swing back and forth, making a *real* ‘Walking Liberty’?”

Paul M. said he would reserve judgment on the coins until he could see what they look like.

“I really want to see the actual coins before deciding,” he remarked. “And then there’s the price of gold: Will it go up or down? At the right price, these could be nice accent pieces for my collection.”

A user who goes by the moniker Gilbert wondered: “If the cost is prohibitive for some, why not mint them in copper, silver, and gold? Catch the full spectrum of collectors.”

Lateefah Simms, public affairs specialist at the United States Mint, says that “under current legislation, the U.S. Mint has broad discretion with respect to the designs of gold and platinum coins. By contrast, the Mint has very limited authority with respect to silver coins, where the physical characteristics, devices and inscriptions are set by statute.”

So, in other words, seeking authorization to mint the 2016 Liberty coins in silver, though a well-intended proposition, could have been an uphill battle in Congress that few would be up for, or perhaps be able to win, before the coins’ centennial year of 2016 comes and goes.

It’s a legal hurdle that people such as Mike Fuljenz, president of Universal Coin & Bullion in Beaumont, Texas, understands—though Fuljenz still wishes the coins were available in a silver format, as he feels it would help them reach more collectors.

“When I was mowing lawns or working as a teacher, I would have loved to buy these coins in silver,” he said. “I just wouldn’t have been able to afford to buy them in gold.”

Yet, he can empathize with the potential legislative challenges that would come with obtaining authorization for striking silver versions of the 2016 Liberty centennial coins.

Details still emerging

At this juncture, nobody involved with the production of the centennial gold coins is able or willing to provide a release date, and certainly nobody can foretell what these gold bullion coins will cost when they finally are released; that’s an answer the finicky bullion markets will largely dictate as the release date nears.

While release dates and prices remain up in the air at this point, there are still other details that must be ironed out before the 2016 gold coins make a bold appearance on the numismatic stage. For example, what about the AU markings that are requisite on bullion coins? There has been much back and forth among CCAC members whether to use the “AU” elemental symbol representing gold or “.999 gold.”

The very idea of including the AU markings on these coins has riled some members of the CCAC.



Adolph A. Weinman's Walking Liberty half dollar, struck from 1916 through 1947, is widely considered one of the world's most beautiful silver coins. Its obverse design is still in production to this day on the American Silver Eagle.

"You're going to ruin them, quite frankly," CCAC member Mike Moran said upon learning the markings were required on the gold Liberty coins. How would the gold content and fineness be represented? Some CCAC members suggested a marking such as "AU 24."

Just where will the gold markings go? "Is it possible to edge-letter that?" CCAC member and sculptural artist Heidi Westweet asked during the Jan. 28 meeting. "I know the dime is very, very tiny."

Decorative privy marks have also been suggested as a more artistic way to represent the coins' gold composition.

By June, the Mint and most members of the CCAC seemed content with placing "AU 24K 1/10 oz." mark below the motto "E PLURIBUS UNUM" on the Mercury dime's reverse, with a similar ½-ounce declaration scrawled out above the words "HALF DOLLAR" on the gold Walking Liberty coin. Meanwhile, "AU 24K ¼ oz." is slated to appear on the obverse of the Standing Liberty quarter, to the right of Miss Liberty under the word "TRUST."

Mint-mark mystique

Another type of mark on these coins is also generating many opinions, though many of them are positive. Coin collectors are salivating over the possibility that these coins would be issued with mint marks corresponding to the rarest issues of the 1916 dime, quarter and half dollar.

Much of the talk has been that the Mercury dime would be issued with a "D" mint mark for "Denver" to symbolize the coveted 1916-D issue, and the Walking Liberty half dollar would bear an

"S" mint mark from San Francisco, the lowest-producing mint that year for the "Walker."

The 2016 gold Standing Liberty quarter would not have a mint mark; this would help the Standing Liberty coin stay true to its 1916 roots, as only the Philadelphia Mint struck Standing Liberty quarters—just 52,000 examples—during their first year of issue, and the Philly mint didn't place mint marks on its coins at that time.

If mint marks are implemented, they will be placed in their original positions as seen on the coins in 1916, which is a point of most concern with Walking Liberty half dollars. The mint marks in that series were moved from the obverse to the reverse in 1917.

For now, though, talk of mint marks is largely symbolic, as decisions about what facilities will make these coins are still up in the air. On that note, many recent gold coins have been manufactured at the West Point Mint in New York.

Speaking of the 1916 quarter, what about the original, "scandalous" design that shows Miss Liberty's exposed right breast? Apparently, there had been concern among some U.S. Mint officials that the bare-breasted design would cause some cheeks to blush, even a century later.

Marks weighed in favor of the original design during the January meeting, saying, "I think if you want to honor the 1916 Standing Liberty quarter, you need to honor it."

Moran commented: "I personally own a 1917 [Standing Liberty quarter], and it is handsome, it is well done, it is tastefully done."

By the time summer rolled around, the Mint was releasing mock-ups based on the original 1916 Standing Liberty quarter, not the 1917 "Type II" version featuring a decidedly thick coat of chain mail over Liberty's breasts.

Subsequently, the reverse of the gold quarter would feature the original design with six stars to the right of the eagle and seven stars to its left, as opposed to the modified 1917 design, which shows the eagle flying above three stars.

Relishing their role

Getting the details just right is not an easy task, especially when the pressure is on to replicate, down to the minutest details, three of the nation's most beloved and popular coins. It is a responsibility, however, that CCAC members are taking on with pride.

"We're going back to the original artwork and galvanos to faithfully restore these coins," said Mary Lannin, chairwoman of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

"We will cover many things in regard to getting the details just right with these coins. Our input will be about whether the lettering [on the coins] would be hand-stamped, and many other minute things that will help these coins correspond to the original 1916 coins."

Fellow CCAC member Donald Scarinci, author of *Coin of the Year: Celebrating Three Decades of the Best in Coin Design and Craftsmanship*, admitted that replicating the designs "is a challenge."

"But," he went on, "it's a challenge the Mint is enjoying."

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Scarinci believes the U.S. Mint is now finally able to represent these coins on a mass scale in a way that Weinman and MacNeil could have only dreamt of in 1916.

"The technology of the U.S. Mint has caught up to what the designers of these coins envisioned decades ago," he said. "Not only has the technology improved, but the U.S. Mint has been experimenting with patination and finishing techniques, and even the creation of the world's first curved clad coin [the 2014 National Baseball Hall of Fame commemorative half dollar].

"The U.S. Mint, in its technical capacity, has been shining and showing their excellence."

How many varieties?

The very thought of buying three commemorative gold coins might already have wallets and purses around the country coughing up moths. Yet, it appears that there will be only one version of each of the three coins, and that should elicit a sigh of relief from the many coin collectors who want to buy all three 2016-dated gold coins.

At this point, Lannin confirms that "business-strike" versions of the coins

have been proposed but are not finalized yet." And talk of proof versions appears to be waning, as many members of the CCAC advocate striking these gold coins in a finish more reminiscent of the original 1916 coins, which were made only as business strikes.

"[The 1916 coins] were not highly frosted like some of the modern gold pieces that we're doing right now," Wastweet observed.

"I'd say do the uncirculated [finish]. If you want to honor the design, the guys who designed these never intended it to have those sharp [proof] contrasts," Marks agreed.

While he believes that proof coins might cause "a buzz," Marks concluded: "I would first make sure [the Mint] covered [its] bases with something that approximates to the original, uncirculated finish."

Fuljenz poses a hypothetical scenario in which companion silver coins also were minted. Producing the gold coins as business strikes and the silver coins as proofs would be an appealing concept for collectors, he said.

"A silver set in proof, either matte proof or mirrored proof, would have been interesting and more affordable," Fuljenz said.

US MINT

"Matte proofs were made in 1916," he noted, referring to the Lincoln cent and Buffalo nickel. "So it would still be presumably authentic to strike the 2016 centennial Liberty coins in matte proof."

"For that matter, the gold coins of the early Teens were struck in matte proof," he added, implying that the same finish could be authentically replicated on the proposed 2016 gold coins.

What this means for the hobby

While the prices of the three gold coins might give pause to some coin collectors, the artistic and historical merits of the 2016 centennial gold commemorative coins are nonetheless undeniable.

"I think collectors will really gravitate to these coins," Lannin remarked. "Sometimes, with the CCAC design meetings, we have to go through dozens of designs to choose the right one. This time, we have three of the most iconic designs in U.S. coinage."

Ultimately, Lannin believes that it is coin programs such as the 2016 Liberty centennial gold series that not only help reignite a passion for coin collecting among older people, but also help light the spark in younger individuals.

"We want to be able to pass on our obsession, passion, our love for coins to the next generation," she exclaimed. "It's about asking the young children questions like, 'Who do you think the lady is on the Mercury dime? Why does she have wings on her helmet? What does the D mean? How about the S?'"

Scarinci believes the gold coins will make an impact on numismatics in a profound way.

"They bring back old designs and old design elements as they were originally intended," he observed.

"This is numismatic history. This goes to show how far the country has come in appreciating art on coins. They're made by real humans and are handheld works of art."

Scarinci went on to say: "It's fitting the Mint is doing this and that there is a market for this. It's giving coin collectors what they've been longing for."

Which, of course, begs the question: Will more of these classics be turning up in the U.S. Mint's commemorative coin selections in the years ahead? Surely, there are other U.S. coin designs from yesteryear that deserve a breath of fresh numismatic air—perhaps Anthony de Francisci's high-relief Peace dollar design from 1921 or the unique incuse designs of Bela Lyon Pratt's Indian Head \$2½ and \$5 gold coins from 1908.

Scarinci would drop only a tempting hint of what's to come.

"2016 is not going to be the end of these coins," he said. "There won't be a flood of designs, but there will be more." ☐

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1807-1839 Capped Bust Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1808	75	90	125	275	475	875	2500	20000
1809	65	100	150	225	400	775	2500	22000
1810	75	90	150	250	425	725	2500	18500
1811 (small 8)	65	85	125	200	400	700	2000	18000
1811/10 (18.11)	80	100	175	300	825	1250	5250	25000
1812	70	90	125	200	400	675	2000	18000
1812 (2/1 small 8)	85	100	150	250	525	1000	2750	22250
1812 (2/1 large 8)	2250	3250	5250	8250	15000	28000	-	-
1813	70	90	125	200	375	725	2500	18000
1813 (50C over UNI)	80	100	175	275	775	1750	3250	40000
1814	70	90	125	200	475	750	2000	15000
1814/3	125	150	275	550	975	1750	4000	25000
1815/2	1750	2000	3250	4500	6250	8750	20000	88000
1817	75	100	125	200	375	625	2000	15000
1817/3	150	250	375	575	1250	2250	6500	42750
1818	65	80	90	125	275	600	1500	15000
1818/7 (small 8)	80	100	150	225	500	1000	3250	22500
1819	70	85	100	150	300	500	1750	18000
1819/8 (small 9)	85	100	125	225	350	675	2500	18000
1820 (small date)	75	100	125	175	450	950	2750	30000
1820/19 (curled 2)	95	125	150	275	765	1250	3000	32500
1821	75	90	100	125	275	550	1500	18000
1822	70	85	100	150	300	550	1500	14000
1822/1	90	100	150	250	525	875	2000	20000
1823	70	85	100	125	250	525	1250	15000
1824	65	80	90	100	225	450	1250	12000
1825	65	75	90	125	250	425	1250	12000
1826	65	75	90	125	225	400	1000	10000
1827 (curled 2)	55	65	85	100	200	375	1000	10750
1827/6	85	100	125	150	375	575	1750	18000
1828 (curled base, no knob 2)	65	75	85	100	200	375	1250	10750
1829	60	70	85	100	200	375	1000	10750
1829/7	85	100	125	150	275	650	1750	18500
1830 (small o)	60	70	80	90	200	375	1000	10000
1831	60	70	80	90	200	375	1000	10000
1832 (small letters)	60	70	80	90	200	375	1000	10000
1833	60	70	85	100	200	375	1000	10250
1834 (large date, large letters)	60	70	80	100	200	375	1000	10000
1835	60	70	80	100	200	375	1000	10000
1836	60	75	85	100	200	400	1250	10500
1836 50 cents	1000	1500	2000	2750	4000	5250	10000	100000
1837 50 cents	65	80	100	150	225	375	1250	18000
1838 Half Dollar	65	80	100	150	250	425	1250	20000
1839 Half Dollar	75	90	100	175	275	450	1250	35000
1839-O Half Dollar	250	425	850	900	1750	2250	5500	50000

1839-1891 Seated Liberty Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1839	40	50	80	175	250	350	1250	18500
1840 (small letters)	40	55	75	125	250	350	825	8750
1840 (medium letters)	175	225	375	600	1250	1500	4000	25000
1840-O	40	50	60	150	325	450	900	-
1841	50	65	100	200	350	450	1500	18000
1841-O	40	55	75	150	325	450	1250	28000
1842 (medium date)	30	50	60	100	150	300	800	8000
1842-O (small date)	800	1000	1500	2500	4750	7500	18000	-
1842-O (medium date)	30	40	60	75	225	375	1250	25000
1843	30	40	60	65	175	250	650	15000
1843-O	30	40	60	75	225	350	825	22000
1844	30	40	60	75	175	275	650	5000
1844-O	30	50	65	100	250	300	950	-
1844-O (double date)	500	1000	1250	1750	3500	8000	-	-
1845	40	65	90	175	300	475	1000	-
1845-O	40	50	65	125	275	375	825	9750
1845-O (missing drapery)	50	80	100	200	600	800	-	-
1846 (medium date)	30	50	60	85	200	300	700	12500
1846 (large date)	40	50	80	150	400	500	800	-
1846-O (medium date)	30	40	60	80	200	300	1250	-
1846-O (large date)	250	400	500	900	2000	2750	8500	-
1846 (over horizontal 6)	150	250	300	500	800	1500	6000	-
1847	30	40	60	75	175	250	700	8500
1847-O	30	40	60	80	250	350	850	18000
1847/6	2500	3500	5000	8000	12000	-	-	-
1848	50	70	100	200	350	525	1000	9000
1848-O	35	55	65	100	300	375	975	15000
1849	40	55	65	100	225	475	925	-
1849-O	40	55	65	100	275	475	1000	22500
1850	225	350	525	700	850	1000	2000	25000
1850-O	30	50	60	100	200	300	800	14000

1839-1891 Seated Liberty Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1851	350	475	675	1000	1500	1750	3250	14000
1851-O	40	70	125	200	300	400	1000	15000
1852	400	550	775	1000	1500	1500	2500	9500
1852-O	75	150	350	675	1000	1750	3750	30000
1853	40	50	75	125	300	575	1500	25000
1853-O	50	60	90	175	400	825	3000	50000
1854	40	50	70	80	175	325	675	8750
1854-O	40	50	75	100	200	350	725	9250
1855	40	50	70	85	200	350	700	12000
1855/4	80	100	200	300	500	600	2000	-
1855-O	40	50	70	90	175	350	700	8750
1855-S	500	675	1000	2250	4500	7250	25000	65000
1856	30	50	60	75	150	250	575	6500
1856-O	30	50	65	85	175	275	575	7750
1856-S	65	125	275	525	1000	2000	5250	-
1857	30	50	60	75	150	225	525	5500
1857-O	40	55	65	100	250	325	1250	18000
1857-S	75	125	250	500	1250	2000	5500	50000
1858	25	35	60	80	150	225	550	5750
1858-O	35	55	65	90	175	225	550	9500
1858-S	45	60	90	175	375	500	1500	20000
1859	30	50	60	85	150	250	550	5750
1859-O	40	50	85	150	300	400	1250	16000
1860	35	50	60	85	175	300	675	7250
1860-O	30	40	60	95	200	275	575	5750
1860-S	40	55	80	125	250	375	1500	-
1861	25	35	60	75	150	250	550	5250
1861-O	35	50	65	100	200	325	600	6250
1861-S	40	60	75	125	275	400	1250	14000
1862	50	65	75	150	250	425	700	7000
1862-S	40	60	70	100	275	350	750	12500
1863	45	60	75	100	200	375	525	10000
1863-S	40	50	75	100	225	300	725	18000
1864	45	65	150	300	400	575	1000	10000
1864-S	45	75	150	225	400	625	1250	16000
1865	50	75	100	200	400	650	1500	9000
1865-S	45	65	100	200	400	650	1500	95000
1866-S (w/o motto)	525	775	1000	1500	2500	4000	8500	88000
1866 (with motto)	30	50	65	100	250	300	675	7000
1866-S (with motto)	35	50	65	100	250	375	775	12500
1867	40	60	85	175	300	350	900	10000
1867-S	35	50	65	100	250	325	1250	14000
1868	50	80	125	200	325	525	975	6750
1868-S	35	50	65	100	225	300	650	10500
1869	30	45	55	75	175	275	575	8000
1869-S	35	50	60	100	250	400	1250	6500
1870	30	50	60	100	200	250	650	6750
1870-CC	1750	3250	4500	7000	15000	30000	95000	-
1870-S	35	50	75	150	375	475	1000	20000
1871	30	45	55	75	150	225	625	5750
1871-CC	475	725	950	1500	3500	5750	20000	-
1871-S	30	45	55	75	150	300	700	8000
1872	30	45	55	75	175	275	600	6500
1872-CC	225	325	650	1250	2500	4750	25000	-
1872-S	35	55	75	175	375	450	1500	25000
1873 (closed 3)	40	60	75					

1839-1891 Seated Liberty Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1880	350	400	450	550	725	750	1000	4500
1881	400	450	500	550	650	700	900	4500
1882	450	500	575	700	900	925	1000	4750
1883	375	500	550	675	800	850	1000	4500
1884	475	575	600	650	775	825	1000	4500
1885	500	600	650	675	800	825	975	5250
1886	525	600	675	700	825	875	1000	4500
1887	575	650	700	750	975	1000	1250	5000
1888	400	450	525	600	750	775	925	4250
1889	375	425	475	575	725	750	1000	4250
1890	375	450	500	550	700	800	1000	4500
1891	50	75	100	150	200	300	600	4500

1839-1891 Seated Liberty Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1858	-	1000	1500	2250	4750	8750	22000	40000
1859	725	825	1250	1750	4000	7250	16000	30000
1860	700	800	1000	1750	3500	7000	12500	35000
1861	675	800	1000	2000	3500	7000	12500	35000
1862	675	800	1000	2000	3500	7000	12750	25000
1863	675	775	1000	1750	3500	7000	15000	25000
1864	675	750	1000	2000	3500	7000	14000	-
1865	675	750	1000	2000	3500	7000	18000	35000
1866 (with motto)	650	725	975	1500	2250	4500	7500	14000
1867	650	725	950	1500	2250	4500	8500	14500
1868	650	725	950	1500	2250	4750	7000	14250
1869	675	750	1000	1500	2250	4250	5750	14000
1870	650	725	975	1500	2000	4750	6250	22000
1871	650	725	950	1500	2250	4500	6250	12500
1872	675	750	1000	1500	2250	4500	7000	-
1873 (closed 3)	650	725	950	1500	2250	4500	8000	15000
1873 (with arrows)	1000	1250	1500	2750	4250	12000	32500	52500
1874	1000	1250	1500	2500	4500	12000	28000	40000
1875	575	675	900	1500	2000	4000	5750	14000
1876	575	700	900	1500	2000	4000	7500	15000
1877	575	700	900	1500	2250	4250	9000	-
1878	575	675	875	1500	2000	3750	5500	14000
1879	600	700	900	1500	2000	3750	5500	12500
1880	575	675	900	1500	2250	3750	5500	25000
1881	575	675	900	1500	2000	3750	5500	12000
1882	575	700	900	1500	2250	3750	5500	12000
1883	575	675	875	1500	2000	3750	5500	12000
1884	575	675	875	1500	2000	3750	5500	12500
1885	575	700	900	1500	2000	3750	5500	15000
1886	575	675	875	1500	2000	4000	5500	14000
1887	575	675	900	1500	2000	4000	5500	14500
1888	575	675	900	1500	2000	3750	5500	12750
1889	575	700	925	1500	2000	3750	5500	14500
1890	575	675	900	1500	2000	4000	5500	12250
1891	575	675	875	1500	2000	3750	5750	12250

1892-1915 Barber Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1892	30	40	75	125	225	375	525	3250
1892-0	300	425	575	625	725	775	1250	5500
1892 (micro o)	5500	9750	12500	14000	18000	20000	28000	100000
1892-S	225	375	450	600	750	825	1250	5250
1893	25	35	75	150	275	375	575	4500
1893-0	35	75	125	250	400	475	700	8500
1893-S	175	275	575	775	1000	1500	2250	22500
1894	35	50	125	225	300	375	575	3750
1894-0	25	40	100	225	375	475	725	6500
1894-S	25	35	100	150	300	425	725	9250
1895	25	35	75	175	275	400	650	4000
1895-0	30	50	150	225	350	500	800	7500
1895-S	35	75	150	275	375	450	725	7750
1896	25	40	100	175	325	425	700	5000
1896-0	50	100	225	500	1250	1500	4000	25000
1896-S	125	200	375	475	1000	1250	2250	10000
1897	25	35	75	125	250	400	575	3500
1897-0	150	250	525	875	1250	1500	2500	9500
1897-S	150	225	425	650	1000	1250	2500	8250
1898	20	25	45	125	250	400	625	3750
1898-0	40	100	300	500	750	900	1250	9000
1898-S	30	50	100	175	450	475	1250	12000
1899	18	25	50	125	225	375	575	3750
1899-0	25	40	100	175	325	450	750	8000
1899-S	25	35	100	150	300	425	800	6250
1900	18	20	35	100	225	375	525	3750
1900-0	25	35	75	175	375	525	975	15000

1892-1915 Barber Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1900-S	20	30	50	125	225	375	700	8750
1901	15	20	45	100	225	375	600	4250
1901-0	25	40	100	250	525	725	1500	15000
1901-S	40	100	250	450	1000	1500	2750	18000
1902	15	20	50	100	225	375	600	4000
1902-0	20	25	75	150	375	450	875	9500
1902-S	20	30	75	200	425	525	975	8750
1903	18	25	50	100	225	375	625	9000
1903-0	20	30	75	175	350	425	775	8000
1903-S	20	30	75	150	300	450	900	5750
1904	15	20	50	100	225	375	600	5000
1904-0	25	40	125	325	550	675	1500	14000
1904-S	50	150	500	1250	3250	5250	12000	50000
1905	25	35	100	200	300	425	675	6000
1905-0	30	50	175	250	425	500	900	4750
1905-S	20	35	75	175	350	400	725	8500
1906	18	25	35	100	225	375	550	3250
1906-D	18	25	40	100	225	375	575	3500
1906-S	18	25	40	100	225	375	575	3500
1907	15	20	35	100	225	375	575	3250
1907-D	18	25	45	100	225	375	575	3250
1907-S	18	25	50	100	250	375	600	3250
1908	30	45	125	225	650	925	1750	12250
1908-0	15	20	35	100	200	375	525	3500
1908-S	18	25	40	100	225	375	550	3250
1909	20	30	100	200	400	450	700	6000
1909-0	20	30	100	200	400	450	700	6000
1909-S	18	25	50	100	225	375	575	3250
1910	25	35	125	225	650	925	1750	12250
1910-0	20	30	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1910-S	20	30	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1911	25	35	125	225	650	925	1750	12250
1911-0	20	30	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1911-S	20	30	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1912	15	20	40	100	225	375	575	3250
1912-0	18	25	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1912-S	18	25	50	125	225	375	575	3250
1913	75	100	275	500	850	1000	1500	5500
1913-D	20	30	65	125	300	400	625	4500
1913-S	35	50	75	150	350	475	900	4500
1914	150	200	350	625	950	1250	2250	9750
1914-0	20	35	60	125	275	400	775	4500
1915	100	150	300	400	675	900	1500	7000
1915-D	18	25	50	100	200	375	525	3250
1915-S	20	25	50	125	225	375	575	3250

1892-1915 Barber Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1892	600	675	975	1250	2000	3750</		

1916-1947 Walking Liberty Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1917	12	18	18	25	60	90	150	1250
1917-D (obverse mint mark)	30	40	100	175	275	400	700	8250
1917-D (reverse mint mark)	18	25	60	150	325	575	1250	18500
1917-S (obverse mint mark)	30	60	200	400	800	1500	2750	22000
1917-S (reverse mint mark)	12	18	25	40	85	200	575	14500
1918	12	18	25	60	175	275	575	4000
1918-D	15	20	50	125	300	550	1500	25000
1918-S	10	15	20	45	100	225	600	18000
1919	30	40	100	300	600	925	1750	8500
1919-D	25	40	125	400	1000	2000	6250	150000
1919-S	20	30	80	300	1000	1500	3000	-
1920	20	20	20	40	100	150	400	4800
1920-D	20	25	80	300	500	1000	1800	-
1920-S	20	20	30	100	300	500	1200	-
1921	150	200	300	1000	1750	3000	5000	-
1921-D	250	400	500	1000	2500	3000	6000	-
1921-S	50	100	250	1000	5000	7500	-	-
1923-S	20	20	40	100	500	800	1750	-
1927-S	20	20	20	50	200	400	1250	8500
1928-S	20	20	20	80	200	400	1250	9750
1929-D	20	20	20	40	100	200	400	3250
1929-S	20	20	20	30	100	200	500	3250
1933-S	20	20	20	25	80	250	600	3750
1934	20	20	20	20	25	30	60	525
1934-D	20	20	20	20	30	80	175	1500
1934-S	20	20	20	20	30	80	300	3600
1935	20	20	20	20	25	25	50	325
1935-D	20	20	20	20	30	60	150	2250
1935-S	20	20	20	20	30	100	250	2750
1936	20	20	20	20	20	25	60	250
1936-D	20	20	20	20	25	40	80	575
1936-S	20	20	20	20	25	50	150	1250
1937	20	20	20	20	20	25	50	250
1937-D	20	20	20	20	30	80	150	800
1937-S	20	20	20	20	25	60	125	700
1938	20	20	20	20	25	40	80	450
1938-D	40	50	60	100	150	200	500	1500
1939	20	20	20	20	20	25	40	175
1939-D	20	20	20	20	20	25	40	175
1939-S	20	20	20	20	25	50	150	350
1940	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	175
1940-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	350
1941	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	150
1941-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	150
1941-S	15	15	15	15	15	25	80	900
1942	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150
1942-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	250
1942-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	450
1943	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150
1943-D	15	15	15	15	18	20	40	225
1943-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	300
1944	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150
1944-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150
1944-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	450
1945	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140
1945-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140
1945-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140
1946	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140
1946-D	15	15	15	15	15	25	35	140
1946-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140
1947	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	175
1947-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150

1916-1947 Walking Liberty Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1936	1000	1750	2250	2500	2750	3500	5000	15000
1937	425	450	550	650	775	950	1250	2000
1938	400	425	475	525	650	825	1000	1500
1939	350	375	425	475	600	750	825	1250
1940	-	325	400	450	550	625	725	1000
1941	250	300	375	425	475	625	700	1000
1942	250	300	375	425	500	625	700	1000

1948-1963 Franklin Half Dollars

1948-1963 Franklin Half Dollars

1948-1963 Franklin Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1936-S	20	20	20	20	25	50	150	1250
1937	20	20	20	20	20	25	50	250
1937-D	20	20	20	20	30	80	150	800
1937-S	20	20	20	20	25	60	125	700
1938	20	20	20	20	25	40	80	450
1938-D	40	50	60	100	150	200	500	1500
1939	20	20	20	20	20	25	40	175
1939-D	20	20	20	20	20	25	40	175
1939-S	20	20	20	20	25	50	150	350
1940	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	175
1940-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	350
1941	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	150
1941-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	40	150
1941-S	15	15	15	15	15	25	80	900
1942	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150
	1950		200	275	325	400	450	850
		225	250	275	375	425	750	1250
		100	125	150	175	250	425	650
		50	55	75	125	175	350	450
		30	35	40	60	85	200	250
		20	25	35	55	65	75	125
		20	25	30	45	80	175	375
		18	18	20	25	25	30	50
		18	18	20	25	30	35	55
		18	18	20	25	30	35	100
		18	18	20	20	25	30	50
		18	18	20	20	25	30	50
		18	18	20	20	25	30	45
		18	18	20	20	25	30	80
		18	18	20	25	25	30	45
		18	18	20	20	25	30	75

1964-2015 Kennedy Half Dollars

							G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS63
1942-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	450						
1943	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150	1964	7	7	7	7	7
1943-D	15	15	15	15	18	20	40	225	1964-D	7	7	7	7	7
1943-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	300	1965 (silver clad)	3	3	3	3	4
1944	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150	1965 (silver clad, special mint set)	4	4	4	4	4.50
1944-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150	1966 (silver clad)	3	3	3	3	4
1944-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	450	1966 (silver clad, special mint set)	4	4	4	4	4.50
1945	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140	1967 (silver clad)	3	3	3	3	4
1945-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140	1967 (silver clad, special mint set)	4	4	4	4	4.50
1945-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140	1968-D (silver clad)	3	3	3	3	4
1946	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140	1969-D (silver clad)	3	3	3	3	4
1946-D	15	15	15	15	15	25	35	140	1970-D (silver clad)	7	7	7	8	10
1946-S	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	140	1971	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75
1947	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	175	1971-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75
1947-D	15	15	15	15	18	18	35	150	1972	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75
									1972-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75

1964-2015 Kennedy Half Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1981-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	20
1981-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	15
1982-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2	30
1982-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.25	20
1983-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	3.50	25
1983-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	3	25
1984-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.75	20
1984-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.50	12
1985-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.50	20
1985-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.50	25
1986-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	3.50	25
1986-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	5	20
1987-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	3	15
1987-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	3	20
1988-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2	15
1988-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	3	18
1989-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.50	12
1989-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2	12
1990-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.50	15
1990-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.75	15
1991-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	3.50	15
1991-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.25	15
1992-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.25	12
1992-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.25	12
1993-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	2.25	15
1993-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1.50	12
1994-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	10
1994-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	12
1995-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	10
1995-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	10
1996-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	10
1996-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	10
1997-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	15
1997-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	12
1998-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	15
1998-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	12
1999-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1
1999-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	20
2000-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	12
2000-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	12
2001-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	10
2001-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	12
2002-D	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.25	10
2002-P	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	10
2003-D	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2003-P	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2004-D	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2004-P	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2005-D	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2005-P	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	15
2006-D	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	8
2006-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	1	2.50
2007-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2007-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2008-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2008-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2009-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2009-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2010-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2010-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2011-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2011-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2012-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2012-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2013-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2013-P	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	6
2014	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	8
2014-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	8
2015	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	8
2015-D	.75	.75	.75	.75	1	1	1	8

1964-2014 Kennedy Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1964	10	10	10	12	15	25	55	65
1968-S (silver clad)	4	5	6	8	10	10	15	25
1969-S (silver clad)	4	5	6	8	10	10	15	20
1970-S (silver clad)	4	5	6	10	12	15	18	25
1971-S	1.75	2	2.50	3	5	10	12	15
1972-S	1.25	1.5	2	3	4.5	8	10	15

1964-2014 Kennedy Half Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1973-S	1.25	1.5	1.75	2.50	5	8	10	12
1974-S	1.25	1.5	2	3	5	8	10	12
1976-S	1.50	1.75	2.25	3.50	5	7	10	12
1977-S	1.50	1.75	2.25	3.50	6	7	10	12
1978-S	1.25	1.5	2.25	3.50	6	7	10	12
1979-S (filled s)	1	1.25	1.5	2	3.5	6	10	12
1979-S (clear s)	10	10	12	12	15	15	15	18
1980-S	1	1.25	1.50	2	3.50	6	10	12
1981-S	1	1.25	1.50	2	3.50	6	10	12
1982-S	1	1.25	1.50	2	3.50	6	10	12
1983-S	1	1.25	1.50	2	3.50	6	10	12
1984-S	3	3.50	4	5	6	8	10	12
1985-S	2.50	3	3.50	4	5	8	10	12
1986-S	3.50	4	5	6	7	8	10	12
1987-S	2.50	3	3.50	4.5	5	8	10	12
1988-S	2.50	3	3.50	5	6	8	10	12
1989-S	2.50	3	3.50	5	6	8	10	12
1990-S	3	3.50	4	5	6	8	10	12
1991-S	8	8	8	10	12	12	12	15
1992-S	2.25	2.50	3	5	8	10	10	12
1993-S	7	8	8	10	12	12	12	15
1994-S	4.50	5	5	6	8	10	12	15
1995-S	7	7	8	10	10	12	12	15
1996-S	5	6	7	8	10	12	12	15
1997-S	8	8	10	10	12	12	12	15
1998-S	8	8	10	10	12	12	12	15
1999-S	7	7	8	10	10	12	12	15
2000-S	-	2	2.50	3	3.50	5	10	12
2001-S	-	2	2.50	3	3.50	5	10	12
2002-S	-	2	2.50	3	3.50	6	7	8
2003-S	-	2	2.50	3	3.50	4	5	6
2004-S	-	2	2.50	3	3.50	5	6	7
2005-S	1.50	1.75	2	2.25	2.50	4	6	8
2006-S	3	3.50	4	5	6	7	10	12
2007-S	3	3.50	4	5	6	8	10	12
2008-S	3	3.50	4	5	6	8	10	12
2009-S	3.50	4	4.50	5	6	7	8	10
2010-S	3.50	4	4.50	5	6	7	8	10
2011-S	3.50	4	4.50	5	6	7	8	10
2012-S	3.50	4	4.50	5	6	8	8	10
2013-S	10	12	15	18	18	18	20	22
2014-S	10	12	15	18	18	18	20	22

1836-1873 Seated Liberty Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS63
1840	300	350	400	450	725	1250	4250	8750
1841	275	325	350	425	675	975	2500	5000
1842	175	250	325	400	575	925	2250	5000
1843	175	250	325	400	575	925	2500	5000
1844	175	250	325	400	775	1500	4750	9500
1845	275	325	375	425	775	1750	8750	17500
1846	250	300	350	425	625	1000	2500	5000
1846-0	250	300	375	425	775	1500	7000	14500
1847	250	300	350	425	575	975	2750	5000
1848	325	375	475	675	1000	1750	4500	9000
1849	250	300	350	425	675	1000	2500	5000
1850	425	525	725	1000	1750	2750	6750	13500
1850-0	300	350	475	725	1500	3250	13000	25000
1851	4750	7250	10250	14750	20000	27250	40000	80000
1852	4250	5750	9500	12750	17000	26750	40000	75000
1853	300	350	425	625	1000	1500	3250	6250
1854	975	1500	2250	2750	3750	5250	8750	17500
1855	975	1250	1750	2250	3750	4750	7250	14500
1856	375	425	500	725	1500	3250	4750	9500
1857	350	425	500	725	1500	2750	4250	8750
1859	275	325	425	500	725	1500	2750	5250
1859-0</td								

1836-1873 Seated Liberty Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS63
1870	225	300	325	425	575	1000	2000	4500
1870-CC	675	825	1250	2250	4000	7750	25000	40000
1871	250	300	325	425	575	1000	2000	4500
1871-CC	2500	3250	4750	7000	15000	25000	75000	175000
1872	250	300	325	400	575	1000	2250	4750
1872-CC	1500	2750	4250	4750	8250	14500	27250	95000
1872-S	375	475	650	925	2000	3250	12000	35000
1873	325	375	400	425	575	1000	2250	4750
1873-CC	4750	6750	10750	18000	27250	40000	112000	175000

1836-1873 Seated Liberty Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1840	12000	13750	22000	30000	47500	75000	-	-
1841	-	-	-	70000	95000	175500	-	-
1842	18500	22500	30000	55000	65000	90000	-	-
1843	-	25000	32500	47500	65000	-	-	-
1844	-	-	-	-	90000	150000	200000	-
1845	14000	17500	30000	37500	47500	75000	135000	200000
1846	12500	15000	20000	30000	47500	150000	175000	-
1847	13750	18000	20000	25000	35000	65000	-	-
1848	13750	18000	22500	32000	42500	70000	115000	150000
1849	18500	22500	25000	40000	50000	90000	125000	175000
1850	13500	14500	20000	30000	35000	67500	80000	-
1851 restrike	22500	25000	28000	35000	48000	70000	140000	-
1852	30000	32000	38000	42500	50000	80000	-	-
1852 restrike	28000	30000	35000	40000	55000	90000	-	-
1853	25000	32500	40000	52500	70000	130000	-	-
1854	12500	14000	16500	20000	25000	55000	65000	-
1855	10000	12000	13000	18000	25000	50000	62500	-
1856	6250	7750	9000	12750	22000	40000	-	-
1857	5000	6750	7750	12250	17500	35000	52500	-
1858	10250	10500	12500	16000	25000	42500	52500	-
1859	2750	3000	3500	5000	7500	20000	37250	65000
1860	2500	2750	3500	4750	7000	15500	32250	65000
1861	2500	2750	3500	5250	7000	16500	35000	78000
1862	2500	2750	3250	4750	7250	16750	32500	65000
1863	2250	2500	3500	5000	7000	18000	32000	62500
1864	2500	3000	3750	5250	7500	18000	32750	57500
1865	2250	3000	3500	5000	7250	17250	27500	55000
1866	2250	2500	3000	4000	6750	15000	25750	48000
1867	2250	2500	3000	4000	6500	15000	28000	48000
1868	2250	2500	3250	4000	7000	15000	27500	45000
1869	2250	2750	3000	4000	6750	15500	28500	48000
1870	2000	2500	3000	4250	6500	15500	30000	50000
1871	2000	2500	3250	4250	6750	15000	26750	48250
1872	2250	2500	3250	4250	7000	14500	28000	50000
1873	2250	2500	3250	4250	7000	15000	30000	-

1873-1878 Trade Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1873	75	125	175	225	325	375	1000	14000
1873-CC	200	250	525	800	1500	2750	8250	180000
1873-S	125	150	175	200	300	450	1250	22250
1874	125	150	175	200	300	400	1000	18000
1874-CC	200	250	350	525	775	900	3250	42000
1874-S	125	150	175	200	300	375	1000	20000
1875	325	375	400	475	850	1000	2500	25000
1875-CC	250	300	350	500	650	875	2500	40000
1875-S	125	150	175	200	300	350	1000	12250
1875-S/CC	225	325	425	600	1000	1750	4250	75000
1876	125	125	150	200	300	350	1000	12000
1876-CC	275	375	500	625	800	1500	7500	82500
1876-S	125	150	175	200	300	350	1000	15000
1877	125	150	150	200	300	375	1000	22250
1877-CC	275	375	525	675	1000	1250	3250	85000
1877-S	125	150	175	200	275	375	1000	14000
1878-CC	500	625	1250	2000	4250	5750	18000	150000
1878-S	125	150	175	200	275	375	1000	15000

1873-1885 Trade Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1873	2000	2250	2750	3750	5750	15000	35000	-
1874	1750	2250	2500	3500	4750	12500	25000	38000
1875	1750	2250	2500	3500	4750	12750	22500	38000
1876	1750	2250	2500	3500	4750	12000	20000	-
1877	1750	2250	2500	3500	5250	12000	18500	32000
1878	2000	2250	2750	3500	5000	12000	20000	30000
1879	2000	2250	2750	3500	4750	10000	14000	28000
1880	2000	2250	2750	3500	4750	10000	14000	28000

1873-1885 Trade Dollars Proofs

	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67
1881	2000	2250	2750	3500	4750	10000	14000	28000
1882	2000	2250	2750	3500	4750	10000	14000	32000
1883	2000	2250	2750	3500	4750	10000	14000	30000

1878-1921 Morgan Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1878 (8 feathers)	35	40	45	50	55	80	150	1800
1878 (7 feathers)	35	40	45	50	55	60	80	125
1878 (7/8 feathers)	35	40	45	50	55	80	125	3000
1878-S	35	35	40	45	50	55	60	400
1878-CC	80	90	100	110	115	125	300	2000
1879	35	35	40	45	50	55	60	800
1879-O	35	40	40	45	45	50	100	4000
1879-S	35	40	40	45	45	50	60	400
1879-S (reverse of 1878)	35	40	40	45	45	50	80	200
1879-CC	125	150	175	300	800	2250	4000	0
1879-CC/CC	125	150	175	300	600	2000	4000	0
1880	30	35	35	40	45	45	55	800
1880-O	30	35	35	40	40	45	90	31750
1880-S	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	200
1880-CC (80/79, flat breast)	575	625	675	725	825	875	975	4000
1880-CC (8/7, flat breast)	525	575	625	675	775	825	925	2800
1880-CC (double tail feathers)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1881	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	800
1881-O	35	40	40	40	40	45	55	1550
1881-S	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	200
1881-CC	350	385	400	415	435	450	535	950
1882	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	625
1882-O	35	40	40	40	40	45	55	1725
1882-O/S	600	650	700	750	850	900	1000	0
1882-S	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	200
1882-CC	100	105	105	108	125	155	220	525
1883	30	35	35	40	40	40	50	275
1883-O	30	35	35	40	40	40	50	225
1883-S	30	35	35	40	40	55	100	715 56000
1883-CC	100	105	105	108	125	130	220	625
1884	30	35	35	40	40	40	50	375
1884-O	35	40	40	40	40	40	50	200
1884-S	30	35	35	40	40	50	300	9100 265000
1884-CC	145	150	155	160	165	190	220	525
1885	30	35	35	40	40	40	50	200
1885-O	35	40	40	40	40	45	50	200
1885-S	30	35	35	40	40	40	50	265
1885-CC	615	625	650	660	665	670	835	1250
1886	30	30	35	40	40	40	50	175
1886-O	35	40						

1878-1921 Morgan Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1896-O	35	40	40	40	50	165	1800	175000
1896-S	40	45	45	60	235	875	1975	19750
1897	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	375
1897-O	30	35	35	40	50	105	950	72500
1897-S	30	35	35	40	40	45	80	675
1898	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	275
1898-O	30	35	35	40	40	45	50	200
1898-S	40	45	45	50	55	110	270	2700
1899	175	175	200	200	200	250	250	1250
1899-O	30	35	35	40	45	45	50	200
1899-S	40	45	45	50	60	155	450	2425
1900	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	200
1900-O	30	35	35	40	40	45	55	200
1900-O/CC	40	45	50	60	100	185	310	1825
1900-S	40	45	45	50	55	85	350	1900
1901	40	45	50	55	110	375	2625	525000
1901-O	35	40	40	40	40	40	50	200
1901-S	35	40	40	40	50	210	550	3400
1902	35	40	40	40	45	45	65	535
1902-O	35	40	40	40	40	45	50	200
1902-S	100	105	115	155	210	300	415	3225
1903	45	50	50	50	55	60	70	350
1903-O	325	335	360	385	400	415	475	665
1903-S	90	95	125	215	400	1850	4250	12250
1904	30	35	35	40	45	45	100	2925
1904-O	35	40	40	40	40	45	55	200
1904-S	40	45	50	85	215	600	1725	12000
1921	30	30	35	40	40	45	50	200
1921-D	30	30	35	40	40	45	50	425
1921-S	30	30	35	40	40	45	50	1750

1878-1921 Morgan Dollars Proofs

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS63
1878 (8 feathers)	675	725	775	825	1000	1500	2500	3250
1878 (7 feathers)	675	725	775	825	1000	1500	2500	3250
1879	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1880	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1881	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1882	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1883	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1884	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1885	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1886	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1887	725	775	825	875	1500	2000	3000	3750
1888	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1889	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1890	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1891	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1892	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1893	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1894	675	725	775	825	1000	1500	2500	3250
1895	6000	6500	7000	7500	12000	18000	35000	50000
1896	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1897	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1898	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1899	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1900	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1901	650	700	750	800	900	1250	2250	3000
1902	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1903	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750
1904	625	675	725	775	875	1000	2000	2750

1921-1935 Peace Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1921	80	110	125	130	150	175	325	2500
1922	30	30	30	30	35	35	45	175
1922-D	30	30	35	35	35	40	50	650
1922-S	30	30	35	35	40	40	50	2500
1923	30	30	30	30	35	35	40	125
1923-D	30	30	35	35	35	40	80	1250
1923-S	30	30	35	35	35	40	50	5000
1924	30	30	30	30	35	35	40	125
1924-S	30	30	40	40	40	70	250	8000
1925	30	30	30	30	35	35	40	125
1925-S	30	30	40	40	40	50	100	20000
1926	30	30	30	30	35	40	50	500
1926-D	30	30	30	30	30	40	80	900
1926-S	30	30	30	30	30	40	60	1000
1927	30	30	40	40	40	50	80	1750
1927-D	30	30	40	40	40	80	200	4750

1921-1935 Peace Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1927-S	30	30	40	40	40	40	80	200
1928	225	225	250	300	375	400	550	4000
1928-S	30	30	40	40	40	50	80	200
1934	30	30	40	40	40	50	60	120
1934-D	30	30	40	40	40	45	60	150
1934-S	30	40	50	60	60	50	60	80
1935	30	30	40	40	40	60	100	300
1935-S	30	30	40	40	40	60	100	1500

1921-1922 Peace Dollars Proofs

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1921 (satin)	6500	7000	7500	8000	18000	25000	45000	70000
1921 (matte)	6500	7000	7500	8000	18000	25000	45000	70000
1922 (matte)	18000	25000	35000	45000	65000	75000	95000	120000

1971-1978 Eisenhower Dollars

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1971	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	4	100
1971-D	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2	40
1971-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	30
1972	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2	100
1972-D	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2	30
1972-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	30
1973	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	3	40
1973-D	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	3	40
1973-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	30
1974	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2.50	40
1974-D	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2.50	25
1974-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	30
1976 (1776-1976, bold letters)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	100
1976 (1776-1976, thin letters)	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	30
1976-D (1776-1976, bold letters)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	30
1976-S (1776-1976, silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	30
1977	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	3	25
1977-D	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2.50	25
1978	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2	25
1978-D	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2.50	10

1971-1978 Eisenhower Dollars Proofs

	G04	VG08	F12	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65
1971-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	15
1972-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	15
1973-S	1	1	1	1.25	2.25	3	5	12
1973-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	35
1974-S	1	1	1	1	2	2.50	4.50	10
1974-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	15
1976-S (1776-1976, bold letters)	1	1	1	1.25	2.25	3	5	12
1976-S (1776-1976, thin letters)	1	1	1	1	1.75	2.25	4	8
1976-S (silver clad)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	20
1977-S	1	1	1	1	2	2.50	4.50	10
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1983-2011 Modern Commemorative Dollars

	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS66	MS67	MS68	MS69	MS70
1995-D Atlanta Olympics Paralympics	15	18	45	50	50	50	50	100
1995-D Atlanta Olympics Track	15	20	40	50	55	65	75	250
1995-D Atlanta Olympics Cycling	20	40	75	80	85	90	100	225
1996-D Atlanta Olympics Tennis	35	65	125	150	150	175	200	375
1996-D Atlanta Olympics Paralympics	75	95	150	150	175	175	200	325
1996-D Atlanta Olympics Rowing	55	75	150	175	175	175	200	400
1996-D Atlanta Olympics High Jump	70	90	150	150	175	175	200	475
1995-W Special Olympics	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	200
1996-S National Community Service	35	55	100	100	100	100	125	250
1996-D Smithsonian Anniversary	18	35	75	75	75	80	90	150
1997-P Botanic Garden	15	18	28	35	40	40	50	200
1997-S Jackie Robinson	15	20	45	55	60	70	80	650
1997-P National Law Enforcement								
Memorial	30	50	95	100	100	100	12	275
1998-S Robert F. Kennedy	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	100
1998-S Crispus Attucks	20	45	70	70	75	75	85	200
1999-P Dolly Madison	15	18	30	35	35	40	50	95
1999-P Yellowstone	15	18	30	35	40	40	45	150
2000-P Library of Congress	15	18	28	30	30	40	45	95
2000-P Leif Ericson	15	20	30	35	50	55	75	200
2001-D Buffalo	65	100	150	150	150	150	175	425
2001-P U.S. Capitol	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	150
2002-D Salt Lake Olympics	15	18	28	30	30	30	40	90
2002-W West Point Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	70
2003-P Orville and Wilbur Wright	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	100
2004-P Thomas Edison	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	90
2004-P Lewis and Clark Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	85
2005-P Chief Justice John Marshall	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	80
2005-P Marines Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	50	125
2006-P Benjamin Franklin Scientist	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	75
2006-P Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary	15	18	28	30	30	40	40	85
2006-S San Francisco Old Mint	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	90
2007-P Jamestown Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	75
2007-P Little Rock H.S. Desegregation	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	85
2008-P Bald Eagle	15	20	30	35	35	40	45	125
2009-P Louis Braille	15	20	30	35	35	40	45	150
2009-P Abraham Lincoln	15	20	30	35	35	40	45	90
2010-P Boy Scouts	15	20	35	35	35	40	45	75
2010-P Disabled American Veterans	15	20	35	35	35	40	45	65
2011-S U.S. Army	15	20	35	35	35	40	50	100
2011-S Medal of Honor	15	25	45	50	50	50	60	100
2012-W Infantry	15	25	40	40	45	45	50	80
2012-P Star Spangled Banner	15	25	40	40	45	50	50	90
2013-W Girl Scouts	15	25	30	35	35	40	40	65
2013-W Five Star Generals	15	25	40	40	45	45	50	100
2014-P Civil Rights Act of 1964	15	25	40	0	0	0	0	
2014-P Baseball HOF	15	25	50	55	60	65	70	250

1983-2011 Modern Commemorative Dollars Proofs

	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS66	MS67	MS68	MS69	MS70
1983-S Los Angeles Olympiad	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	1500
1984-S Los Angeles Olympiad	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	575
1987-S Constitution Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	150
1986-S Statue of Liberty Ellis Island	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	150
1988-S Olympiad	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	175
1989-S Congress Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	675
1990-P Eisenhower Centennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	200
1991-S Mount Rushmore	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	200
1991-P Korean War Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	500
1991-S USO	15	18	28	30	30	40	45	450
1992-S Olympiad Baseball	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	525
1992-W White House Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	275
1992-P Columbus Quincentenary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	575
1993-S James Madison Bill of Rights	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	475
1991-1995-W WWII Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	400
1994-S World Cup USA94	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	350
1993-S Thomas Jefferson Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	475
1994-P Vietnam Veterans Memorial	18	20	35	35	35	40	60	650
1994-P National POW Museum	18	20	35	35	35	40	60	1250
1994-P Women in Military Service	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	750
1994-S U.S. Capitol Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	50	400
1995-S Civil War Battlefields	15	20	35	35	40	40	45	400
1995-P Atlanta Olympics Gymnastics	18	28	30	30	35	45	575	
1995-P Atlanta Olympics Paralympics	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	350
1995-P Atlanta Olympics Track	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	475
1995-P Atlanta Olympics Cycling	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	600
1996-P Atlanta Olympics Tennis	15	20	40	40	45	50	60	2750
1996-P Atlanta Olympics Paralympics	15	20	30	35	40	40	55	675
1996-P Atlanta Olympics Rowing	15	18	35	40	40	45	60	2000

1983-2011 Modern Commemorative Dollars Proofs

	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS66	MS67	MS68	MS69	MS70
1996-P Atlanta Olympics High Jump	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	13000
1995-P Special Olympics	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	375
1996-S National Community Service	20	45	45	50	50	50	55	250
1996-P Smithsonian Anniversary	15	18	30	35	35	40	55	550
1997-P Botanic Garden	15	18	28	30	35	40	50	400
1997-S Jackie Robinson	15	18	35	50	60	65	75	750
1997-P National Law Enforcement								
Memorial	20	40	60	65	70	70	80	325
1998-S Robert F. Kennedy	15	18	28	35	40	40	50	575
1998-S Crispus Attucks	20	45	70	75	85	90	100	450
1999-P Dolly Madison	15	18	28	35	40	40	45	100
1999-P Yellowstone	15	18	30	35	35	40	45	375
2000-P Library of Congress	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	500
2000-P Leif Ericson	18	18	30	35	40	45	55	750
2001-P Buffalo	65	100	150	150	150	150	175	550
2001-P U.S. Capitol	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	375
2002-P Salt Lake Olympics	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	250
2002-W West Point Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	100
2003-P Orville and Wilbur Wright	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	500
2004-P Thomas Edison	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	175
2004-P Lewis and Clark Bicentennial	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	100
2005-P Chief Justice John Marshall	15	18	28	30	30	35	45	150
2005-P Marines Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	55
2006-P Benjamin Franklin Scientist	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	100
2006-P Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	80
2006-S San Francisco Old Mint	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	90
2007-P Jamestown Anniversary	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	75
2007-P Little Rock H.S. Desegregation	15	18	28	30	30	35	40	85
2008-P Bald Eagle	15	20	30	35	35	40	45	125
2009-P Louis Braille	15	20	30	35	35	40	45	150
2009-P Abraham Lincoln	15	20	30	35	35	40	50	90
2010-P Boy Scouts	15	20	35	35	35	40	45	75
2010-P Disabled American Veterans	15	20	30	35	35	40	50	75
2011-P U.S. Army	15	20	30	35	35	40	50	100
2011-P Medal of Honor	15	25	40	45	45	50	55	175
2012-W Infantry	15	25	40	45	45	50	50	125
2012-P Star Spangled Banner	15	25	40	45	45	50	50	125
2013-W Girl Scouts	15	25	40	45	45	50	55	85
2013-P Five Star Generals	15	25	45	45	50	50	55	100
2014-P Civil Rights of 1964	15	25	45	45	-	-	-	-
2014-P Baseball HOF	25	45	70	-	-	-	-	-

1986-2015 Silver Eagles

	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	MS67	MS68	MS69	MS70
1986	20	20	20	20	20	20	45	775
1987	20	20	20	20	20	20	45	1250
1988	20	20	20	20	20	20	35	1750
1989	20	20	20	20	20	20	35	1400
1990	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	4000
1991	20	20	20	20	20	20	35	4000
1992	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	1500
1993	20	20	20	20	20	20	30	4250
1994	20	20	20	20	20	20	50	2000
1995	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	875
1996	20	20	20	20	20	20	80	9500
1997	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	1000
1998	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	1000
1999	20	20	20	20	20	20	60	20000
2000	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	5000
2001	20	20	20	20	20	20	200	900
2002	20	20	20	20	20	20	30	175
2003	20	20	20	20	20	20	30	

1986-2015 Silver Eagles Proofs

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$10

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$10 Proofs

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$25

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$25 Proofs

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$25 Proofs

	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS68	MS69	MS70
2003-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	400	450
2004-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	900	1300
2005-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	450	500
2006-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	400	450
2007-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	400	450
2008-W	325	325	325	325	325	325	750	1000

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$50

	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS68	MS69	MS70
1997	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	850
1998	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	775
1999	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	825
2000	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	775
2001	625	625	625	625	625	650	800	875
2002	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	775
2003	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	900
2004	625	625	625	625	625	625	650	700
2005	625	625	625	625	625	625	700	800
2006	625	625	625	625	625	625	650	750
2006-W (BURNISHED)	625	625	625	625	625	650	825	1000
2007	625	625	625	625	625	625	700	750
2007-W (BURNISHED)	625	625	625	625	625	650	700	950
2008	625	625	625	625	625	625	650	700
2008-W (BURNISHED)	625	625	625	625	625	800	1000	1250

1997-2008 Platinum Eagles \$50 Proofs

	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS68	MS69	MS70
1997-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	875
1998-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	825
1999-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	750	875
2000-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	750	850
2001-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	825	1300
2002-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	775
2003-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	800
2004-W	650	650	650	650	650	875	1200	1500
2005-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	850	1000
2006-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	825
2007-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	850	1200
2008-W	650	650	650	650	650	650	900	1250

1997-2015 Platinum Eagles \$100

1997-2014 Platinum Eagles \$100 Proofs

	VF20	XF40	AU50	MS60	MS65	MS68	MS69	MS70
1997-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2800
1998-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
1999-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2000-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2001-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1600	2250
2002-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	1750
2003-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2750
2004-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2750
2005-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2350
2006-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2007-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	1750
2008-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2500
2009-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2500
2010-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2011-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2012-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2013-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000
2014-W	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1500	2000

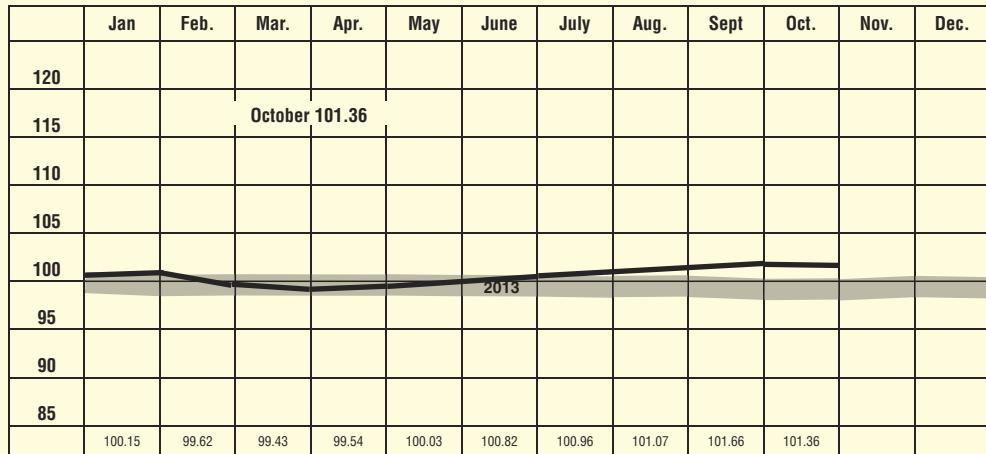


COINage Price Averages

PRICES COURTESY OF THE
COIN DEALER NEWSLETTER

COINage PRICE AVERAGES reflect the monthly activity of the wholesale coin market in two areas. In the MS65 category, which is more of an investor's market, are 68 key coins. In the VF category, which tends to be a collector's market, there are 53. (The coins are listed with their appropriate charts.) Each issue we show the price of the coin and the percent of change this represents in the calendar year. In each category all the percentage changes are added and then divided by the total number of coins in the group. This produces the indices that are shown and graphed. The values printed are designed as a guide and not a final authority for the coins listed. In no way do they represent an offer to buy or sell.

COINS IN
MS
65
DOWN .30



	% Chg. 2014	1949-D 10¢	7.50	+7.1	1921 Peace \$	2,000	+4.2	
Half Cent Braided	1,550	—	Seated 25¢	1,475	—	\$3 Gold	12,000	+8.7
Large Cent Braided	910	—	Barber 25¢	940	—	\$5 Liberty	2,100	-1.9
1877 Indian 1¢	10,000	—	1916 Standing 25¢	20,000	—	\$5 Indian	10,500	—
1909-S Indian 1¢	1,700	—	1930-S 25¢	390	+1.3	\$10 Liberty	2,875	-5.4
1909-S VDB Lincoln 1¢	4,750	—	1932-D 25¢	10,500	—	\$10 Indian	2,900	-4.6
1960 SD Lincoln 1¢	1,70	—	1955 25¢	6.00	—	\$20 Liberty	3,000	-12.5
2¢ Piece	480	—	Bust 50¢	9,800	—	\$20 St. Gaudens	1,940	-5.8
3¢ Nickel	450	—	Seated 50¢	3,500	—	Isabella 25¢	1,900	—
3¢ Silver	675	—	Barber 50¢	2,450	—	1893 Columbian 50¢	325	-7.1
1885 5¢	8,750	—	1938-D 50¢	1,210	+3.0	Texas 50¢	170	—
1913 Type I Buffalo 5¢	120	-4.0	1944 50¢	95	—	1903 LA Purch. Jeff \$	1,380	-1.4
1913-S Type II 5¢	3,200	—	1953 50¢	70	—	1937 Proof Set	3,250	—
1939-D 5¢	80	—	1955 50¢	34	—	1950 Proof Set	450	—
1950-D 5¢	15	—	1964-D 50¢	8.75	-2.8	1955 Proof Set	78	—
Bust Half Dime	2,300	—	1965 50¢	5.00	+56.3	1964 Proof Set	26.00	+15.6
Seated Half Dime	630	—	Bust \$1	200,000	—	1947 Mint Set	2,500	+53.8
Bust 10¢	7,000	—	Seated \$1	47,000	—	1963 Mint Set	27.00	-26.5
Seated 10¢	650	—	Trade \$1	9,750	—			—
Barber 10¢	505	—	1893-S \$1	600,000	—			—
1916-D 10¢	20,000	—	1921 Morgan \$1	150	—			—
1921 10¢	2,350	—						
								+92.6

COINS IN
VF
CONDITION
DOWN .14



	% Chg. 2014	+14.3	Seated 10¢	16	—	1921 Morgan \$1	28.00	-6.7
Half Cent Braided	64	—	Barber 10¢	5.75	—	1921 Peace \$1	110	—
Large Cent Braided	30	—	1916-D 10¢	3,400	+1.5	1934-S \$1	65	—
1877 Indian 1¢	1,250	-12.3	Bust 25¢	130	—	\$1 Gold	175	-7.9
1909-S Indian 1¢	500	—	Seated 25¢	32	—	\$2.50 Liberty	250	-9.1
1909-S VDB Lincoln 1¢	650	—	Barber 25¢	22	—	\$2.50 Indian	230	-11.9
2¢ Piece	21	—	1916 Standing 25¢	7,400	—	\$3 Gold	725	—
3¢ Nickel	17.50	—	1930-S 25¢	8.50	—	\$5 Liberty	335	-4.3
3¢ Silver	50	—	1932-D 25¢	155	—	\$5 Indian	400	+15.9
Shield 5¢	28	—	Bust 50¢	75	—	\$10 Liberty	660	-11.3
1885 5¢	800	—	Seated 50¢	60	—	\$10 Indian	660	-9.0
1913 Type I Buffalo 5¢	12.75	—	Barber 50¢	105	+75.0	\$20 Liberty	1,275	-6.6
1913-S Type II 5¢	340	—	1938-D 50¢	90	-10.0	\$20 St. Gaudens	1,285	-6.5
1939-D 5¢	5	—	Bust \$1	2,300	—	Isabella 25¢ XF	355	+7.6
1950-D 5¢	8	—	Seated \$1	335	—	1893 Columbian 50¢ XF	16.50	+1.5
Bust Half Dime	90	+5.9	Trade \$1	130	—	Texas 50¢ XF	105	—
Seated Half Dime	18.50	+2.8	1893-S \$1	4,800	—	1903 LA Purch. - Jeff \$1 XF	470	—
Bust 10¢	80	—						+25.7

Obsolete Type Collection



receive an Indian Cent, "V" Nickel, Barber Dime, Barber Quarter, Barber Half and if you order a six-piece set, a Morgan Dollar. A very attractive set at a great price.

5 Piece Set (Cent through Half) ... \$34.50 **Ten Sets ... \$325.00**
6 Piece Set (Cent through Dollar) ... \$69.50 **Ten Sets ... \$675.00**

Caligula's Successor



After the death of Caligula in 41 AD, Claudius was proclaimed Emperor by the Praetorian

Guard. Claudius, a very capable administrator personally took part in the invasion of Britain, beginning a Roman occupation that would last until the 5th century. Claudius died in 54 AD, as a result of poison administered on the orders of his wife Agrippina. He was succeeded by his adopted son, Nero. We offer nice VF bronze quadrans of Claudius. This nearly 2,000 year old coin is priced at only...

\$49.50

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Mixed foreign coins by the pound are probably one of our best sellers. However, we have bought too much. We have just purchased over a ton (2,000 pounds) of mixed foreign coins. This mixture includes coins from countries all over the globe. We need to sell these coins in bulk and we need to sell them quick. Buy now and receive FREE of charge, a genuine ancient coin with each 10 pound purchase.

10 Pounds with 1 Free Ancient ... \$129.50
20 Pounds with 2 Different Free Ancients ... \$239.50
30 Pounds with 3 Different Free Ancients ... \$329.50

Prussian 2 Mark "Defeat of Napoleon" Centenary



This 1913-A Prussian 2 mark silver coin celebrates the 100th anniversary of Prussia's defeat of Napoleon in 1813. The obverse displays an eagle (signifying Prussia) with a snake (signifying Napoleon-France) in its talons. The reverse of this very attractive coin shows a figure on horseback surrounded by people. The edge possesses the saying "Gott Mit Uns" which translates to "God With Us". We offer this 90% silver coin, which was minted during the reign of Kaiser Wilhelm II in Choice Almost Uncirculated condition for only....

\$49.50

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2. Postage & Insurance are additional. For orders within the Contiguous U.S., please include \$8.00. For orders outside the Contiguous U.S., please add ample postage. We will refund any overage.
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2. All orders must be sent to your billing address. This information is verified for your protection.



Every coin in this set will grade Good or better and will be around a century old. Housed in a Whitman plastic holder, you will

Anti-Hitler Button



This colorful 1.75 inch button was issued by the Evans Novelty Company from Chicago, Illinois, in 1943. Promoting the American

war effort, the design depicts Uncle Sam hanging Adolf Hitler from a tree. The mechanism "hangs" the Führer when the lever is depressed. Easily the most memorable patriotic pinback from World War II, this button is in excellent condition and is in perfect working order.

\$149.50

Choice AU Morgan Dollars

We offer 20 different dates with every coin dated before 1921. You will be delighted with the quality of these coins.

\$799.50

Fine "V" Nickels

Ten Different Dates in the 1900's, including a 1912-D ... \$54.50

1914-D Lincoln Cents

You never see these on special!

AG	\$119.50	VG	\$189.50
Good	169.50		

1942-S Quarter Hoard

We have just purchased a small hoard of Brilliant Uncirculated 1942 San Francisco Washington Quarters. Each fully brilliant coin grades a minimum of MS-60 and is housed in a Whitman hard plastic holder. We have priced this coin to sell quickly at only...

\$59.50 **Five Coins for \$275.00**

Confederate "Field Artillery" \$10.00 Note



This large size \$10.00 Confederate note is dated February 17, 1864 and features a picture of field artillery in motion. On the bottom right of the note is the bust of R.M.T. Hunter, a Confederate Cabinet Member. We offer this 150 year old note in the following grades:

F/VF Condition ... \$49.50
Nice AU Condition ... \$59.50
Crisp Uncirculated Condition ... \$69.50

Semi-Key Lincoln Specials!

We just purchased a dealer's stock of Semi-Key Lincolns. Take advantage of these special prices.

	AG	Good	VG	Fine	VF
1910-S	\$6.95	\$12.95	\$17.50	\$21.50	\$27.50
1911-S	24.50	47.50	54.50	59.50	62.50
1912-S	11.50	19.50	22.50	27.50	46.50
1913-S	6.95	9.95	14.95	19.50	32.50
1914-S	11.50	22.50	26.50	29.50	37.50
1915-S	8.95	17.50	22.50	28.50	31.50
All Six Coins	\$67.50	\$119.50	\$149.50	\$174.50	\$224.50

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The Modern World

by David Schwager

A Silver Bullion Travelog

Coin collecting and bullion investing go hand in hand, with the same buyers, sellers and mints involved. The appealing silver American Eagle, for example, is as prized as a collectible as it is as a store of value. The same can be said of silver bullion coins issued by a variety of world mints as one-ounce non-circulating legal tender.

The story of legal-tender silver bullion coins begins with a nation that never issued one: South Africa. The one-ounce gold Krugerrand began in 1967 as a way to make private ownership of bullion more convenient.

During the gold boom of the 1970s, the Krugerrand was the coin of choice worldwide, but anti-apartheid trade sanctions made the coin illegal in many countries about the same time. Several nations began striking competing gold coins and often added silver versions as well.

The United States' Silver Eagle, for example, was a direct result of sanctions against South Africa. Importing Krugerrands became illegal in 1985 and the U.S. Mint received directions to begin issuing both gold and silver bullion coins the next year.

The authors of the enabling legislation showed foresight in specifying a .999-fine silver coin (the purity preferred by investors) instead of the .900-fine silver used in pre-1965 circulating coins.

The Silver Eagle is not only the coin of choice for silver investors in the United States, but one of the most popular collector coins of any type or period, rivaling long-standing favorites such as Lincoln cents and Morgan dollars because of its size, beauty and precious metal content.



Made by Australia's Perth Mint, the Kookaburra carries a different image of this native bird each year.



Canada's Maple Leaf is one of the longest-running and most popular silver bullion coins.



The China Mint's silver Panda has become hugely popular in recent years.

Probably the second-most popular silver bullion coin among American investors and collectors, and often the No. 2 seller worldwide, is Canada's Maple Leaf, the silver version of which debuted in 1988. With the purity elevated to .9999-fine, the standard Maple Leaf bears a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse and a maple leaf on the reverse, and shows a face value of five dollars.

SILVER BULLION COINS come in a wide variety of designs, with the Canadian wildlife series and Chinese zodiac versions most often seen. Although the Royal Canadian Mint usually produces very high-quality products, silver Maple Leafs are prone to flaws known as "milk spots." These white marks appear when detergent used to wash planchets is not rinsed off and becomes baked on during heating and cooling steps prior to striking.



Banks in some European nations sell the Austrian Mint's Philharmonic coins directly to the public.

The “Wiener Philharmoniker” legend on Austria’s bullion coin, known in English as the Philharmonic, is familiar to classical music enthusiasts as the name of Vienna’s famous orchestra. The pipe organ obverse and group of instruments on the reverse further honor the nation’s musical heritage. Austria has issued gold Philharmonics since 1989 and introduced a silver version in 2008, just in time to catch silver’s meteoric rise in the following years and become the world’s third-most popular silver bullion piece.

The Philharmonic is the preferred bullion coin in Japan and Europe, but is less common in the United States. Its odd denomination of 1.50 euros (about \$2 U.S.) is due to a European Union rule requiring that circulating and non-circulating coins not share denominations. Because Austria and other Eurozone countries issue one-euro and two-euro pieces for circulation, the 1.50-euro designation is available for non-circulating use—high enough to convey a sense of value and low the bullion value couldn’t drop below face value.

Another European issue, the United Kingdom’s silver Britannia, debuted in 1997 and displays allegorical figure symbolic of Great Britain. The coin used an unusual fineness of .958 for most of its run (an alloy sometimes found in silverware and known as Britannia silver) before switching to the more popular .999 in 2013.

The Britannia’s exact design has changed on an irregular

schedule, although the Royal Mint now plans a new version every year. With the frequent changes and attention to artistry, this coin is more popular with collectors who buy one per year than with bullion investors who buy quantities, and it tends to sell for a few dollars more than many of its competitors.

CHINA'S PANDA GOT off to a slow start, with 1983 to 1988 mintages ranging from 31,000 to none at all and artwork of a lower standard than other world mints. The coin is now made to a high technical and artistic standard and sells in the millions. Its design changes annually, but always features one or more panda bears with selectively frosted surfaces, giving even the uncirculated coins a proof-like appearance.

Like the Britannia, the Panda is more of a collector coin bought one at a time, rather than a bullion coin held for its precious metal value. With world collectors assembling date sets, early Pandas can be surprisingly valuable.



The U.S. Mint's Silver Eagle is the worldwide top-selling silver bullion coin each year.

Australia’s Perth Mint makes a similar silver bullion coin with annual design changes: the Kookaburra, named after a native bird. The Perth Mint is a public-private partnership that makes collector and bullion coins and is separate from the Royal Australian Mint, the government agency that produces coins for circulation.

Like the Panda, the .999-fine coin displays the same bird or birds in a variety of settings and styles. The Perth Mint ships the coins in plastic capsules and limits mintages to between 300,000 and 500,000 per year, meaning they are marketed and valued as collectibles. This year’s 2015 Kookaburra repeats the design of the initial 1990 coin with the addition of a 1990-2015 dual date.

These are far from the only silver bullion coins, and this brief discussion doesn’t touch on those without a denomination, such as Mexico’s popular Libertad, or coins of sizes other than one troy ounce, such as the $\frac{1}{10}$ -ounce through one-kilogram versions of some of the coins already mentioned.

Most dealers will have a selection of world silver bullion coins, and many order a supply of the popular types every year to help collectors keep their sets current. A basic type set of the coins mentioned here is not hard to assemble and adds interest to a bullion collection or portfolio. ☐

David Schwager is a knowledgeable collector of U.S. modern coins. He gives presentations at Los Angeles-area numismatic clubs and is a regular contributor to *COINage* and other publications.



COIN CAPSULE:

by Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez

1997

A Year Marked by the Internet Explosion



The popular American Platinum Eagle bullion coin series debuted in 1997.

While millions around the world kept their eyes on the sky to watch the splendor of a then-recently discovered comet making its once-in-a-millennium pass by Earth, millions of others were connecting their computers to the Internet, a technological phenomenon that was taking the globe by storm.

The information superhighway was rapidly expanding in the mid-1990s, with approximately 1,120,000 websites online by the summer of 1997, compared with just 260,000 sites during that same period only one year earlier.

While those numbers might sound tiny by contrast to the nearly 1 billion websites operating today, the flood of information flowing through computers in 1997 was astonishing, given the fact that the World Wide Web had hosted only a handful of sites in the early 1990s.

Millions were already getting their daily news from the abundant number of news websites online in 1997. But the millions who read the *Washington Post* on Valentine's Day in 1997 became some of the first witnesses to a White House scandal that would unfold before the public eye during the coming months.

A 23-year-old White House intern named Monica Lewinsky had taken out advertising space in the *Washington Post* to write a love note to a man she addressed as "Handsome." The love note, featuring lines from the William Shakespeare play "Romeo and Juliet," was signed "M."

The public would come to learn that "Handsome" was Lewinsky's term of endearment for President Bill Clinton, who had been involved in a relationship with the young woman. The controversy would galvanize the nation, threaten the president's

job and cause millions to wonder what the meaning of the word "is" is.

President Clinton also was involved in bringing to life the popular 50 State Quarters program, which he signed into law late in the year. The 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act, Public Law 105-124, allowed for the redesign of a circulating commemorative quarter honoring each of the 50 states beginning in 1999.

Coin collectors were optimistic that the new program would jump-start interest in numismatics, but few could have predicted the explosive growth of the hobby once the Delaware quarter, the first in the 10-year series, hit circulation in January 1999.

Soon, some numismatic observers were estimating that the 50 State Quarters program had helped bring in more than 100 million new coin collectors.

GOING INTO THE LATE 1990s, the U.S. economy was on fire. Unemployment had fallen to 5.4 percent and the inflation rate was a mere 2.5 percent. The median annual household income was \$37,000, up from \$30,500 in 1992, when a significant recession was taking hold and the jobless rate was nearly 7 percent.

A new house cost \$176,000 and a new Ford Mustang GT convertible was priced at \$24,000. A gallon of gas was \$1.15,



The popular 1921 Peace dollar was a relative steal in MS-63, selling for \$155.

while a gallon of milk cost \$2.88. Though Email was becoming a regular means of communication, most people still used postal mail to send letters and other correspondence, and a first-class stamp cost 32 cents.

During his State of the Union address, President Clinton had announced his intention to balance the federal budget for the first time in nearly 30 years.

He would go on to sign a major bipartisan bill called the Balanced Budget Act later in 1997, which helped to eliminate the U.S. budget deficit and provided economic growth initiatives, including tax credits for college tuition and greater tax relief for households with children.

ISRAEL LOST A LARGE segment of the West Bank city of Hebron on Jan. 17 after the Hebron Agreement was signed. The deal was supervised by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and signed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The agreement made several concessions to Palestinian interests. It transferred 80 percent of Hebron to the Palestinians and limited Israeli military redeployments, but guaranteed peace for the small Jewish minority living in the majority Muslim city.

On Feb. 3, the United States, Great Britain and France froze \$68 million of assets in the form of gold bars that had been looted by the Nazis from European central banks during World War II. Many Jewish people claimed that the gold, stored at

the Bank of England, in Switzerland and under the street in Lower Manhattan at the New York Federal Reserve Bank, was seized from Jewish families who had been sent to Holocaust camps.

Evidence to support these claims prompted the Clinton Administration to propose using the money, intended to repay the central banks, to form a fund benefiting Holocaust victims and their heirs.

After years of British control, Hong Kong returned to Chinese rule at midnight on July 1, 1997. The landmark event, attended by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Britain's Prince Charles, Chinese President Jiang Zemin and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, ended more

than 150 years of British involvement with Hong Kong.

Terms for the transfer of power included a guarantee that Hong Kong would remain a capitalist center of trade in Asia.

The world mourned the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, who was killed when the Mercedes-Benz W140 in which she was riding with her friend Dodi Fayed crashed in a Paris highway tunnel. Fayed and chauffeur Henri Paul also were killed in the Aug. 31 accident. Bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones, who was in the car during the crash, survived.

It was determined that the deceased were not wearing seat belts and that Paul had been both inebriated and under the influence of prescription drugs. Diana's funeral at Westminster Abbey on Sept. 6 was attended by 2,000 mourners and seen by another 2.5 billion people in more than 200 countries through worldwide television coverage aired in 44 languages.

WITH THE EXCEPTION of the ongoing commemorative coin program, which pumped out several dozen Olympic-themed coins in 1995 and 1996 for the Summer Games in Atlanta, the U.S. numismatic scene was relatively quiet in the mid-1990s.

That is, until Congress passed two landmark pieces of legislation in 1997 authorizing a new regular-issue "mini-dollar" coin and a series of new circulating U.S. commemorative coins by the end of the decade. The two bills, signed into law by President Clinton, provided for the reintroduction of the \$1 coin to circulation and the implementation of the massive,



The 1987 matte-finish nickel now sells for around \$175—nearly five times as much as the entire issue price of the 1997 set.



President Bill Clinton signed a bill into law on Dec. 1, 1997, authorizing the creation of the 50 States Quarter series, which premiered with the Delaware quarter in 1999.

decade-long 50 State Quarters program. Congress held hearings in October on the proposed United States \$1 Coin Act of 1997, which authorized the production of a distinctive, gold-colored \$1 coin to replenish the diminishing stockpile of Susan B. Anthony dollars, which had last been struck in 1981. The passage of the Act paved the way for the Sacagawea dollar, though the bill did not clear congressional hurdles very easily.

Arizona Republican Rep. Jim Kolbe pointed to Canada's "Loonie" dollar as a successful example of a dollar coin that replaced a \$1 note, and argued that the new U.S. dollar coin would be successful only if the \$1 bill was removed from circulation.

Kolbe put it this way: "When they introduce legislation to create paper pennies, paper nickels, paper dimes, paper quarters, and when they have coins for one-, two-, five-, ten-, twenty-, fifty- and even one hundred-dollar bills, then I'll be convinced that they truly believe in giving choice to the American people—when we have a choice in every single piece of currency that we have."

"Where is the logic as to why only the one-dollar bill should be the only choice?"

Virginia Republican Thomas M. Davis countered tartly: "The American people clearly don't want to be told what kind of money they're allowed to use."

THE SAGA LEADING UP to the creation of the 50-state quarters was equally taxing for the parties involved.

David L. Ganz, who is widely known in numismatic circles and was president of the American Numismatic Association from 1993 through 1995, had proposed the creation of circulating commemoratives during his early days as a member of the newly formed Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee (CCCAC) in late 1993.

The proposal gained traction in 1995, when hobby leaders coalesced around the idea of a multi-year program of special Washington quarters honoring the Union's 50 states. Passage of the plan got a big boost when it gained the endorsement of Republican Rep. Michael Castle of Delaware, chairman of the House Banking subcommittee that had jurisdiction over the nation's coinage.

Mint Director Philip Diehl, who chaired the CCCAC, won Castle's support when he suggested that the commemorative quarters be issued in the order that each state entered the Union. That would mean Castle's home state of Delaware, the first to ratify the Constitution, would be honored on the first quarter issued in the series.

Castle held hearings on the matter and filed legislation to authorize the coins, but officials at the Treasury Department were hesitant to green-light the massive program in light of past improprieties with other commemorative programs.

Diehl, Castle and other proponents of the commemorative quarter series provided glowing revenue projections (all of which were met by the conclusion of the program a decade after it began) and even set forth a feasibility study in the United States Commemorative Coin Act of 1996.

However, the Treasury would agree to proceed with the commemorative series only if a congressional mandate supported the quarter program. The Senate passed the mandate on Nov. 9, and Presi-



Elton John revised his 1973 hit “Candle in the Wind” as a special tribute for Diana, the former Princess of Wales, and performed it at her funeral.



Lady Diana tragically died at the age of 36 in a car accident in Paris.

dent Clinton signed the 50 State Quarters program into law on Dec. 1.

BY FAR THE BIGGEST hit song of 1997 was Elton John’s newly revised version of “Candle in the Wind.” John, who originally wrote the 1973 song as a tribute to Marilyn Monroe, performed “Candle in the Wind” at the funeral of Lady Diana with rewritten lyrics to pay homage to Diana, a beloved world figure and philanthropist.

The new version of “Candle in the Wind” peaked at No. 1 in the United Kingdom and in many other nations around the world. The *Guinness Book of World Records* proclaimed that the song had become the biggest-selling single “since records began,” though noting that Bing Crosby’s “White Christmas” had still sold the most copies.

Other songs to top the charts in 1997 included “Un-Break My Heart” by Toni Braxton, R. Kelly’s “I Believe I Can Fly,” “How Do I Live” by LeAnn Rimes, “Wannabe” by the Spice Girls and “MmmBop” by Hanson. The year in music also saw Michael Jackson and the Bee Gees inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

“Titanic” sailed to the silver screen in time for holiday moviegoers and took in nearly \$2 billion during its initial box-office run. The film, which chronicles the life of a socialite aboard the doomed *RMS Titanic* during its 1912 maiden voyage, won 11 Academy Awards, including Best Picture. Other hit movies from the year included “Good Will Hunting,” “The Lost World: Jurassic Park,” “L.A. Confि-

dential,” “Men in Black” and “As Good as It Gets.”

The small screen also had its share of hits, with “Seinfeld” a top performer as it entered its last season in the fall of 1997. Also playing well with viewers were fellow NBC sitcoms “Friends” and “Frasier,” “Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” “ER” and “The Practice.”

Steve Irwin’s popular show, “The Crocodile Hunter” debuted on the Animal Planet network on April 5. Meanwhile, comedienne Roseanne Barr’s eponymous hit “Roseanne” ended its nine-year run on ABC, the same network that concurrently saw the last episode of “Coach,” starring Craig T. Nelson.

WHILE THE MOVIES, television and even the Internet were keeping millions entertained, a number of books managed to grab plenty of attention in an increasingly electronic world.

“Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” was published in June 1997 and released in the U.K., quickly capturing the imaginations of millions. The book by J.K. Rowling, was the first in the Harry Potter franchise, and would be released in the United States the following year under the title “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.”

Several other new books also conjured up sales magic in 1997, including “Into Thin Air” by Jon Krakauer, “Guns, Germs, and Steel” by Jared Diamond, Sebastian Junger’s “The Perfect Storm” and “Tuesdays With Morrie” by Mitch

Albom.

“The Lion King” officially debuted at Broadway’s New Amsterdam Theatre on Nov. 13 to rave reviews. Based on the hit 1994 Disney animated feature film of the same name, “The Lion King” snared several Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and has gone on to earn more than \$1 billion, making it the top-grossing Broadway production ever.

“Forever Tango,” “Side Show” and revivals of “1776,” “The Diary of Anne Frank” and “The Sunshine Boys” were other popular shows playing on Broadway in 1997.

ON JAN. 10, 1997, Italy unveiled the bimetallic 1,000-lire coin. The 26.8-millimeter coin featured a woman on the obverse’s nickel insert—an allegorical representation of the Italian republic—surrounded by a copper-aluminum-nickel alloy ring bearing the words “REPUBBLICA ITALIANA” and 12 stars, symbolizing each of the then-12 European Union states. On the reverse of the coin was a map depicting Western Europe.

The first attempt at creating the 1,000-lire coin was a failure. The map on the coin featured a divided Germany, some six years after East Germany and West Germany had reunited as one nation. A version of the coin showing a corrected map was soon issued, but the high-denomination coin wouldn’t last long. The last 1,000-lire coins were made for circulation in 1998, as the Euro became the official currency of Italy on Jan. 1, 1999.



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Comet Hale-Bopp fascinated millions as it streaked across the night sky throughout 1997.

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Meanwhile, changes were coming not only to U.S. coins but also to the nation's paper money. The Federal Reserve introduced a new version of the \$50 bill on Oct. 27 that included a slew of security enhancements designed to deter counterfeiter.

The obverse of the new Series 1996 \$50 bill featured an enlarged and off-center portrait of the 18th U.S. president, Ulysses S. Grant, and the reverse bore a larger, updated view of the U.S. Capitol showing the building's West Front.

Other changes to the \$50 bill included the addition of a security thread that glows yellow when viewed under ultraviolet light, a watermark of Grant and a numeric "50" that changes colors from black to green when the bill is tilted at different angles.

A large, dark "50" was added near the bottom left corner of the reverse to aid individuals with vision impairments. Finally, an additional prefix letter was added to the serial number and the Federal Reserve seal was replaced with a unified Federal Reserve System seal.

IN 1995, ASTRONOMERS Alan Hale and Thomas Bopp had discovered a comet that was temporarily designated as "C/1995 O1." In a short period of time, the comet would be renamed for its two discoverers and become the most widely observed comet of the 20th century as it grew visible to the naked eye in May 1996.

By January 1997, Comet Hale-Bopp was brightly visible to anyone looking for it in the sky—even observers in brightly lit cities. By April, the comet and its distinctive blue tail were brighter than any star in

the sky except for Sirius and were visible throughout the Northern Hemisphere.

Buzz about "The Great Comet of 1997," as it was often called, was rampant on the Internet, which helped spread the word about the celestial spectacle. The last naked-eye observations were reported in December 1997. The comet is expected to make a return appearance in the inner solar system in the year 4385.

While much of the world was tracking the progress of Comet Hale-Bopp, sky-watchers in Phoenix, Arizona, were seeing lights of a far more bizarre type. The Phoenix Lights drew observers' attention on the evening of March 13, when thousands reported seeing a triangular series of lights from an object that appeared to be more than 100 feet in size.

Another set of lights seen during that same evening was confirmed by the United States Air Force to be coming from flares that were dropped during a training exercise at the nearby Barry Goldwater Air Force Range, about 100 miles to the southwest. Several witnesses claimed the lights from the wedge-shaped object were from a plane, though many UFO proponents point to the story as an example of a close encounter of the alien kind.

Meanwhile, a sheep was causing a double-take in the science community. It was reported in early 1997 that a sheep named Dolly had been born the previous year as the world's first successfully cloned animal.

Dolly arrived in this world on July 5, 1996 at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland. Though many scientists applauded the historic breakthrough, the

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The information superhighway was rapidly expanding in the mid-1990s.

news caused controversy among enraged animal rights activists and perplexed ethicists.

Dolly would die in 2003 after suffering from progressive lung disease, though her preserved body, displayed at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, still draws crowds.

SUPER BOWL XXXI kicked off in New Orleans on Jan. 26, with the matchup won by Green Bay Packers, who pummeled the New England Patriots 35-21. On April 13, rising professional golf star Tiger Woods snagged his first major title when he won the Masters by an impressive 12 shots.

Silver Charm, jockeyed by Gary L. Stevens, won the Kentucky Derby on May 3, and Arie Luyendyk raced to a second Indianapolis 500 victory on May 27. On June 28, the world's attention turned to boxing after Mike Tyson bit off part of Evander Holyfield's ear in one of the most notorious bouts in world heavyweight history.

The Florida Marlins pulled off a World Series victory on Oct. 26 against the Cleveland Indians, taking Major League Baseball's highest prize in seven games.

On March 11, Beatles band member Paul McCartney was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II, becoming Sir Paul McCartney as an honor for "his services to music."

Later in the year, while the British and others around the world were mourning

the loss of Lady Diana, another world figure of peace and humanitarianism died. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, a Roman Catholic missionary who spent most of her life serving the people of India, passed away at the age of 87 on Sept. 5.

The world witnessed many other losses in 1997, including the death of one victim at New York City's Empire State Building on Feb. 23 when a 69-year-old Palestinian teacher, Ali Hassan Abu Kamal, opened fire on the legendary building's observation deck. Six others were injured.

In early March, a tornado outbreak in the Central and Southern portions of the United States killed 27, and nine people perished as a result of Hurricane Danny, which struck the Southeastern United States in July.

Attacks by extremists on four western Algerian villages on Aug. 29 caused more than 300 deaths, with the massacre becoming one of the nation's deadliest during the decade.

IN THE DECEMBER 1997 issue of *COINage*, Managing Editor Kari Stone wrote an article titled "Designing Our 50 New Quarters," exploring the mighty task of creating dozens of new designs for the upcoming 50 State Quarters program.

"Can we anticipate coins with designs as evocative of America and with artwork as undeniably superior as the Buffalo nickel? Or can we look forward to 50 coins on

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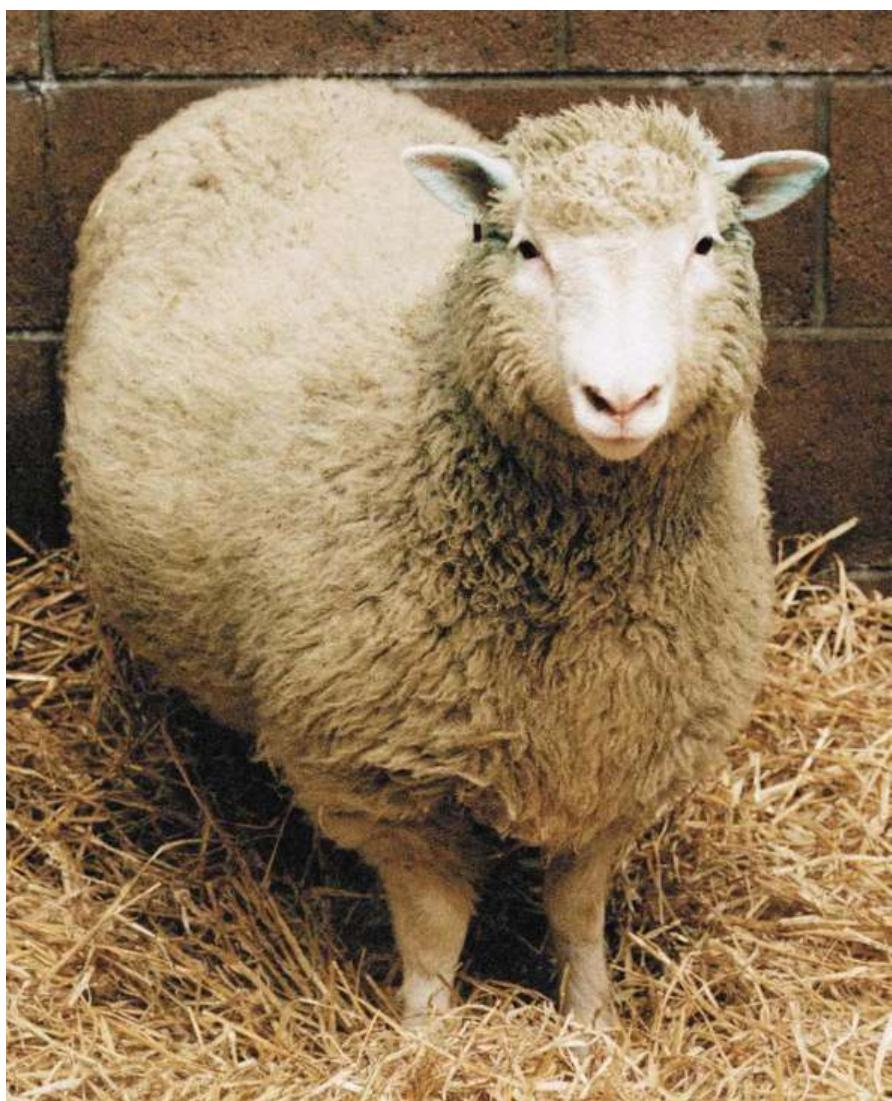


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Scientists in Scotland announced they had successfully created Dolly, a sheep cloned from mature cells.

a par with, say, the worst of the modern U.S. commemoratives?" Stone wrote.

Her concerns were certainly understandable, given the departure of the U.S. Mint's chief sculptor-engraver, Elizabeth Jones, who in 1991 was forced out of a post that had yet to be officially filled by 1997—and, in fact, still hasn't been filled with a new 12th chief engraver appointed by the president and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

In the same issue of *COINage*, Senior Editor Ed Reiter suggested that the Mint would need "an artistic traffic cop" to direct the creation of the new quarter designs, and that the long-departed Jones, or another skilled chief engraver, could help ensure that the 50 state quarters would shine.

"A longtime colleague in the numismatic press, Paul M. Green, liked to say that

Chief Engraver Jones was a 'safety net' for the Mint in matters of art," Reiter recalled. "With 50 new designs possibly coming up, I'd feel a lot more comfortable knowing that an artist of Elizabeth Jones' stature was regulating the flow of coinage traffic."

Despite the absence of a chief engraver at the Mint for most of the 1990s, the decade saw a plethora of new commemorative coins. And 1997 was no exception, as the Mint issued commemorative coins covering four different topics: the U.S. Botanic Garden, historic baseball player Jackie Robinson, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Many collectors had grown weary of the flood of commemoratives by 1997, and some chose not to buy that year's

output. As a result, mintages of the Jackie Robinson and FDR coins were unusually low, and those now command substantial premiums in the secondary market.

The year also saw the beginning of the American Eagle platinum bullion coin series, with $\frac{1}{10}$ -, $\frac{1}{4}$ -, $\frac{1}{2}$ - and one-ounce coins bearing symbolic denominations of \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100, respectively.

Bullion prices in 1997 were relatively inexpensive, compared to today's, with silver averaging about \$4.80 per ounce, gold dipping below \$290 by the end of the year and platinum hovering around \$400.

Numismatic coin prices also were low, as the market struggled to recover from the losses of the early 1990s. One advertiser was selling Brilliant Uncirculated 1925 Stone Mountain half dollars for \$34 each—a price that would have been unimaginably low in 1989, when similar pieces were listing for about \$70.

The popular 1921 Peace dollar was also a relative steal in MS-63, selling for \$155, or nearly \$200 less than eight years earlier.

While some coins plummeted in price from their late-1980s highs, others were selling for more in 1997 than they had eight years earlier. These included the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent, which rose from \$375 in Extremely Fine-40 to \$525, and the Fine-12 1807 Draped Bust half dollar, which increased from \$150 to \$200.

WHILE THE YEAR 1997 fades into the distant past almost as quickly as Comet Hale-Bopp whizzes farther away from Earth, at least the comet will be back someday, while the 1990s will not.

One can, however, hang onto the coinage of 1997 without paying astronomically high prices. The U.S. Mint struck more than 13 billion coins, and they're easily found in 1997 proof sets and "mint sets," both of which can be bought for less than \$10.

The only low-denomination 1997-dated U.S. coin that will set collectors back a pretty penny is the matte-finish Jefferson nickel, which was minted to the tune of just 25,000 pieces—all for inclusion in the 1997 Botanic Garden Coinage & Currency Set.

The matte-finish nickel now sells for around \$175, or nearly five times as much as the entire issue price of the 1997 set, which also included the Botanic Garden silver dollar and a \$1 Federal Reserve Note.

Perhaps the other 1997-dated U.S. cents, nickels, dimes, quarters and half dollars will be worth substantially more, too, by the time Comet Hale-Bopp can be seen unaided by Earthlings once again.

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THE BARBER SILVER COINS



The Barber head of Liberty was based on a French coinage design.

The Story Behind the Seated Liberty Designs

by R.W. Julian

Those of us who began collecting before the mid-1950s remember the old silver coins called “Barber money”; they were well worn, but we collected them because they were old and cost only face value.

Little did most collectors realize the interesting story behind these coins’ existence. The Seated Liberty coinage commenced in December 1836 and remained in place for more than half a century. There was occasional agitation to change the design, but little or nothing came of it.

The first such attempt was made in the late 1850s by Mint Director James Ross Snowden. He had interpreted an 1853 law to mean that he could issue virtually unlimited amounts of silver coins—but the public grew weary of all that silver.



1892 Barber Half Dollar

In an effort to win greater public acceptance for the Seated Liberty coinage, Snowden considered new designs and ordered the creation of patterns to illustrate his ideas. The outbreak of the Civil War and the hoarding of gold and silver put a stop to these plans, however.

Just before the war, Snowden was able to bring about modest modification of the dime and half dime in 1860 by switching the words UNITED STATES OF AMERICA from the reverse to the obverse. No one, however, had taken the time to read the 1837 coinage law, which stated that these words had to appear on the reverse.

By a quirk, when the Barber coinage was first struck in 1892, the old dime reverse was illegally retained since the Coinage Act of 1873 repeated the 1837 rules.

BEGINNING IN 1873, the Treasury was able to put subsidiary silver coins (dimes, quarters and half dollars) into circulation for the first time since 1862. The government congratulated itself on reintroducing silver coinage—but from 1877 to 1879, the silver that had flowed out of the country in 1862, principally to Canada and Central America, suddenly returned in massive amounts. In fact, there was so much silver coinage that avenues of trade were as badly clogged as they had been in the 1850s.

Bankers in particular complained about the excess of silver coinage, and official reaction was to consider once more a change of design. As a result, several patterns were struck in the late 1870s. These were made at the order of Mint Director Henry R. Linderman, who had brought engraver George Morgan from Britain for this very purpose.

The inflow from foreign countries was so strong, however, that the Treasury was forced to suspend minor silver coinage, ending any discussion about new designs for the time being.

The next step toward new designs came early in 1887, when Mint Director James P. Kimball invited artists to submit ideas for the subsidiary silver coinage. He issued a circular on April 9, but withdrew it on April 15 for uncertain reasons. A few inquiries were received from artists while the circular was in effect, but nothing came of this abortive attempt. Members of the Mint engraving staff refused to participate, indicating that the director had not consulted them first.

A curious incident occurred in connection with the circular. Director Kimball asked the superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint for a complete set of U.S. coins in copper as an aid in selecting new designs. Just how this would have helped the project is not clear, but he did not get the requested specimens.

Superintendent Daniel Fox refused to furnish the pieces because the Coinage Act of 1873 forbade the execution of such work. It was the first time the law had been enforced against a Mint director. Kimball retaliated by issuing detailed instructions to make certain that no one else would get patterns or off-metal strikes.

In his report to the Treasury for 1887, Kimball suggested that the silver coinage be redesigned. Nothing came of this before he left office in 1889. He had, however, set the wheels in motion, and it was to be only a matter of time before the minor silver coins actually did receive a new look.

IT WAS NOT UNTIL 1890 that a new drive arose to redesign the silver coinage. Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber wrote to Mint Director Edward O. Leech in September suggesting revised designs for the subsidiary silver only. Leech replied on Sept. 25 that a press of other matters would delay action until the spring of 1891.

Without really consulting anyone at the Mint, Leech issued a circular on April 4, 1891, inviting artists to submit designs for all silver coins, including the dollar. It was almost four years to the day after Kimball had issued his ill-fated circular, and Leech's fate was to be remarkably similar. The engraving staff at the Philadelphia Mint again refused to participate.

Leech had the right idea, but his rules for participation were faulty since all entries had to be in by June 1 in the form of finished plaster models. In addition, each participating artist had to submit four separate obverses—one for each denomination—plus one common reverse model. The time frame made this almost impossible in terms of quality.

Some designs were received, but the advisory committee rejected all entries at a meeting held on June 3. The committee suggested that the Treasury hire artists for such work and not hold any more public contests. Leech agreed, since his idea to hold a public contest had clearly gone nowhere.

The Mint director responded by asking the Mint engraving staff to submit subsidiary silver designs for his inspection. He specified that the designs had to be based on certain general principles. The first was that the obverse head of Liberty should be similar to the model then being



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1892 Barber Dime

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used on French silver and bronze coins. The reverse had to use our national coat of arms as seen, for example, on the Great Seal. Leech did specify that the reverse for the dime, in use since 1860, was not to be changed.

Due to some confusion over Leech's request, Superintendent Oliver C. Bosbyshell, in a letter of June 13, invited the director to Philadelphia for a meeting. In the meantime, the engravers (George Morgan, Charles Barber and William Key) prepared sketches and these were examined by Leech when he visited the Mint in late June.

ON JULY 23, after carefully considering the sketches submitted in June, Leech again

visited Philadelphia for a conference. Chief Engraver Barber was then given the nod to begin work on revising the subsidiary silver coin designs. Since June, Barber had been working on plaster models to illustrate some of his ideas—and as early as Aug. 8, Leech notified one correspondent that some plaster models had been finished.

The first plaster models did not follow the original dictum to use the French head of Liberty at all, but seem to have been based on the famous "Una and the Lion" five-pound British gold coin of 1839 issued for Queen Victoria. Barber had been born in England and might have been expressing his view of French coinage designs. The reverse was very clut-

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Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber

tered and poorly done, with a wreath and clouds spoiling the design.

By early August, Barber was at work on a new reverse design and additional plasters were submitted to the director on Sept. 12. Leech approved the Liberty head (perhaps it was now close enough to the French original to suit him), but took strong exception to the reverse. On Oct. 1 he wrote Barber with sharp criticism of the eagle side.

Leech noted that the proposed reverse was not at all like the Great Seal. Furthermore, the director did not like passage of the ribbon (bearing the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM) over the eagle's neck but wished it to go behind instead. Leech also stated that nine leaves, in groups of three, would be preferable to the 13 leaves Barber had displayed. In addition, he raised the question of whether six-pointed stars might not be used on the obverse instead of the five-pointed ones favored by Barber.

Barber answered the letter on Oct. 2 by writing that "I am quite willing to make any change in design, provided the suggestion in my mind is a good one, but I must ask that criticism come to an end before I am too far advanced with the die ...".

The chief engraver also indicated that he had used the original Great Seal design of 1782 and not the current one. In a postscript, Philadelphia Mint Superintendent Oliver Bosbyshell unwisely seconded Barber's answer.

An angry director replied to Barber's letter on Oct. 5: "I beg to say that the only limit which will be placed on such criticism will be the final adoption of the design. My purpose in the suggestions and criticisms which I have offered is to get as perfect a work as possible and if any number of dies have been prepared or are in process of preparation, any change, however slight, that would in my judgment improve the design, I should have it made."

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1892 Barber Quarter Dollar

"I do not like this spirit which resents criticism and suggestions in regard to the work of the Mints. All criticism and suggestions which are actuated by a kindly spirit and which may have the tendency to beautify our coins, instead of being resented, or any time limit placed upon them, should be most cheerfully received and due consideration given to their merits."

ON OCT. 10, a subdued Barber replied to Leech by promising to adhere in the future to orders from superiors. He also promised to produce a model with nine leaves in the eagle's talon as well as with the scroll passing behind the neck of the bird. On Oct. 15, two additional plasters were submitted to Leech. One had the scroll over the neck and 13 leaves, while the second had nine leaves and the scroll passing behind the neck. Neither had a wreath around the eagle.

For the next several days, Leech examined the new models very closely. He liked the placement of the ribbon behind the neck but still was uncertain about the number of leaves (and arrows) to be shown in the talons. Leech visited the National Botanical Gardens and obtained an olive branch, which was sent to Barber for close study. Leech noted that the leaves came in pairs and said this was to be considered in the final product.

Oct. 17 saw Barber informing Bosbyshell that dies were then under way; the first patterns were struck on Oct. 23.

The first pattern had the Liberty head with no reverse wreath and five-pointed stars on the obverse; the ribbon went behind the neck of the eagle. The second pattern struck at this time was similar, except that the obverse used six-pointed

stars. The third pattern half dollar was poorly described in the letter of Oct. 23 except that the reverse was said to be the same as the Great Seal.

Leech received the patterns on Oct. 24, the day after they were mailed, and noted that the six-pointed-star obverse design was now approved, since it appeared to be the "richer" of the two. Master dies and hubs were ordered made for an 1892 coinage as soon as the final official approval was obtained.

In a letter dated Oct. 28, Barber requested special overtime pay for all the extra engraving work required to prepare new coinage dies. One wonders if this was actually a subtle remark by Barber that Leech had caused all this extra work by his continual criticisms.

Superintendent Bosbyshell sent four additional half dollar patterns to Washington on Nov. 4; there were only two different pieces, there being a duplicate of each design. Both had the same obverse, with six-pointed stars, while the first reverse had clouds above the stars. The second reverse did not have the clouds.

These new patterns were forwarded to President Benjamin Harrison and his Cabinet on Nov. 5. They examined them carefully and chose the first pattern, without the clouds, as the approved design. Leech, in notifying Barber and Bosbyshell, indicated that the clouds on the second piece looked like many things, but not clouds, and it was rejected for this reason.

THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED that there be a bolder E PLURIBUS UNUM on the reverse and LIBERTY on the obverse. Both were felt to be weak and liable to wear in circulation. How right he was!

Mint Director Leech released the designs to the press on Nov. 10, 1891, and a number of newspaper and magazine articles about the change in the subsidiary silver designs appeared. Most of the printed reviews were favorable, but one in *Harper's* made Barber so angry that he complained to Leech. The latter replied that he was amused by attacks on himself and told Barber he ought not to worry.

There are no archival data on the pattern dime and quarter dollar, but they were probably struck in mid-November. On Dec. 11, Bosbyshell requested a delay in coinage (to the middle of January) until the dies had been thoroughly tested. Leech refused.

The first coinage came on Jan. 2, 1892, at 9 a.m. and went off perfectly, all three silver denominations being struck in quantity by the end of the day. However, there were soon complaints from bank tellers that the quarter dollars were not stacking properly, and Barber revised the obverse and reverse designs for this denomination, giving collectors a distinct variety for 1892.

The design was last struck in 1916, and Charles Barber barely outlived that date, dying the following year at the age of 76. The Barber coinage reflected the Victorian era, but the onset of World War I (then known as the Great War) produced new attitudes toward art—and Barber's work, as had the Seated Liberty design before that, soon became a victim of changing tastes.

It was the end of an era.

Today, only the discerning collector is left to appreciate the Barber silver coins and their important role in the marketplace of this country. ☀

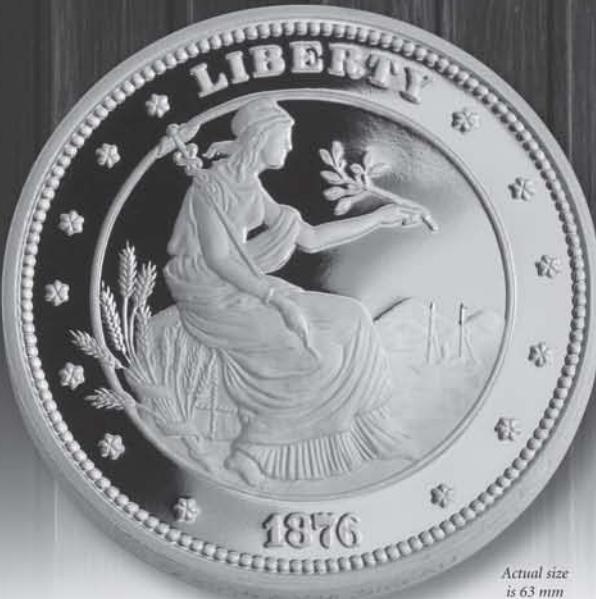


Philadelphia Mint Superintendent Oliver C. Bosbyshell



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October 2015

9-10—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 57th Annual ISNA Coin Show; Indianapolis Marriott East, 7202 East 21st Street; free admission and parking; early birds \$50 on Thu., Fri. 10 am-6 pm, Sat. 10 am-5 pm; 29th Annual I.S.N.A. Junior Auction at 1 Sat. across from Liberty Hall at the Marriott, contact Joyce Fischer, (765) 649-0253

9-10—NEW MARKET, MARYLAND: Fri. 9:30-4:30, Sat. 9:30-4:30; Grange Hall, 7th Alley; 22 dealer tables available; contact Mike@BattlefieldCoinShows.com, (301) 788-6232; Web: www.BattlefieldCoinShows.com

10—GLADSTONE, MICHIGAN: DCC 10th Annual Coin Show; Gladstone American Legion, 809 Delta Ave.; contact Dan Scizak, 906-474-6392; Email: dscizak@charter.net

10—ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA: Ancient City Coin Club Show; Fraternal Order Of Police Lodge #113, 5050 Inman Road; one-day show, 9 am-4 pm; contact Jerry Walden, (904) 940-6245

11—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 71st Street Coin And Currency Show; Knights Of Columbus, 2100 E. 71st Street; Sun. 9 am-3:30 pm; free admission; monthly show, 40 to 60 tables of coins and currency, a diverse group of dealers buying and selling U.S., Canada, world, bullion, jewelry, and other collectibles; contact Mark Eberhardt, (317) 837-5682; email: fubacoin@aol.com; Web: www.fubacoins.com

11—MARIETTA, GEORGIA: Greater Atlanta Coin Show; Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel & Conference Center, 500 Powder Springs Street; 9 am-5 pm; free admission; wide variety of numismatics from ancient to modern, American and World, coins, currency and bullion; contact Bob Obrien, (770) 772-4359; email: coins@atlcoin.com; Web: www.atlcoin.com

11—MELBOURNE, FLORIDA: South Brevard Coin and Stamp Show; Eau Gallie Civic Center, 1551 Highland Ave.; 10 am-4 pm; free admission, free parking, free hourly door prizes; contact Alysha Wilson, Email: alyshawilson@att.net

18—ITASCA, ILLINOIS: 3rd Sunday Coin Show; Holiday Inn, 860 West Irving Park Road; contact Joe, (815) 479-0350; Email: noisecoinshowillinois@gmail.com

21-24—DENVER, COLORADO: The Denver Coin Expo; National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St.; largest coin show in the Rocky Mountains, live auction Friday @ 5 pm; contact Chuck Hayes, (720) 445-4093; Email: info@rockymtnexpos.com; Web: www.rockymtnexpos.com

22-24—NEW YORK, NEW YORK: Wall Street Collectors Bourse and Wall Street Coin, Currency and Collectibles Show; Museum Of American Finance, 48 Wall Street; contact John Herzog, Email: info@wallstreetbourse.com; Web: www.wallstreetbourse.com

22-24—MONROEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA: P.A.N. Fall Coin Show & Convention; Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists; Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Main Blvd., PA Turnpike Exit #57; Thu. 12 pm-6 pm, Fri. 10 am-6 pm, Sat. 10 am-5 pm; free admission and parking; 100+ dealers, 140 tables; contact Show Chairman Blaine Shiff, Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131, (412) 531-4100; Email: pancoins@gmail.com; Web: www.pancoins.org

23-24—OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND: The Ocean City MD Coin And Currency Show; The Ocean City Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway & 40th Street; 40 dealers buying and selling US and world coins and currency; contact Carl Earl Ostiguy, (443) 623-7025; Email: ceocoins@comcast.net; Web: www.coinshows.com

25—ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA: Southern Minnesota Coin And Stamp Show; Kahler Apache Hotel, Royale Ballroom, 1517 16th. Street SW (take Hwy. 52 Exit 53 to 16th St. SW and turn left, then first right.); free admission; 30+ Midwest dealer tables of collector coins, stamps, paper money, tokens and bullion to buy, sell and trade with area collectors; contact Jerry Swanson, (507) 289-5099

25—VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA: Coin & Paper Money Show; Glendale Coin Club; Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way; 10 am-5 pm; admission \$3, under 18 free; free parking; 28 tables, approximately 20 dealers, buy and sell, appraisals, "World of Gold" gold coin lottery, hourly silver coin drawing included with admission; contact Nick Rulli, (213) 250-4354; Email: nrulli1la@aol.com; Web: www.glencoin.com

31—SOUTH BEND, INDIANA: South Bend Coin Show; Comfort Suites, 52939 US 933 North; Sat. 9 am-3 pm; 12 dealers, buy, sell, trade, coins, currency, gold and silver; contact Dave Brody, (574) 272-9198

October-November 2015

30-1—RICHMOND, VIRGINIA: Richmond Coin And Currency Show; Clarion Richmond Hotel, 3207 N. Boulevard; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-3; free admission and parking; more than 55 tables of dealers with U.S., foreign, and ancient coins and currency to buy, sell, and trade, free appraisals, raffles every hour, Saturday is Youth Day; contact Bill Scott, (804) 350-1140; Email: woscott1@verizon.net; Web: www.richmondcoinclub.com

31-1—ROCHESTER, NEW YORK: Rochester Numismatic Association; Annual free coin show; Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; 50 dealers sell and buy coins, competitive displays, short coin talks; contact Bill Coe, (585) 865-7992

November 2015

1—FAIRVIEW PARK, OHIO: Coin, Currency & Stamp Show Universal Coin; American Legion Post #42, 22001 Brookpark Rd.; 10 am-3 pm, no early birds hours; free admission; monthly coin show, 36-40 tables; contact John Cotleur, (440) 864-7473

1—PALATINE, ILLINOIS: 1st Sunday Coin Show; Holiday Inn Express, 1550 East Dundee Road (Rte. 68); contact Joe, (815) 479-0350; email: noisecoinshowillinois@gmail.com

1—MAITLAND, FLORIDA: Orlando Coin And Money Show; Maitland Civic Center Venue On The Lake, 641 S. Maitland Ave.; 9 am-5 pm; free admission; hourly door prizes, all children under 12 receive a free coin, 20-30 tables; contact Jason Lowery, (407) 730-3116; Email: orlandoconexchange@gmail.com; Web: www.maitlandcoinshow.com

1—OWATONNA, MINNESOTA: Cabelas Fall Coin, Stamp And Currency Show; Holiday Inn - Cabelas, I-35 Exit 45 (Clinton Falls); free admission and parking; 25 local coin and stamp dealer tables to buy, sell or trade with area collectors; contact Dan Lemke, (507) 663-6184

8—CLEAR LAKE, IOWA: North Iowa Coin & Collectibles Show; Best Western Holiday Lodge, 2023 7th Avenue North (take I-35 Exit 194 and go west on Hwy. 18); free admission 25 Midwest coin, stamp or currency dealer tables to buy, sell or trade with local collectors; contact Dan Lemke Or Dean Jirousik, (507) 663-6184

8—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 71st Street Coin And Currency Show; Knights Of Columbus, 2100 E. 71st Street; Sun. 9 am-3:30 pm; free admission; monthly show, 40 to 60 tables of coins and currency, a diverse group of dealers buying and selling U.S., Canada, world, bullion, jewelry, and other collectibles; contact Mark Eberhardt, (317) 837-5682; email: fubacoin@aol.com; Web: www.fubacoins.com

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14—KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE: Knoxville Coin Show; Rothchild Catering & Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike; 9 am-4 pm; 25 tables; contact Robert Bruner, (865) 660-8692

14—WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND: Carroll County Coin Club Annual Show; The Best Western Conference Center, Rt. 140 at Wmc Drive; open to the public 9:30 am-5 pm; free admission and parking; dealers from the 4 state region; buying, selling coins, currency, tokens, medals and supplies; contact Lester White, (410) 848-3440; Email: les.white.1@juno.com; Web: www.carrollcountycoinclub.org

14—YUMA, ARIZONA: Yuma Coin Club Show; Coyote Ranch Clubhouse, Coyote Ranch, 9351 E. 28th Street (GPS unreliable in this area); Sat. 9 am-3 pm; free admission, all are welcome; 14 dealer tables are available, 19th/20th-century coins, proof and mint sets, coin supplies, hourly drawings for free prizes; contact Lefty, (765) 243-2115 , or Ken Feltly; Email: yumacoinklub@hotmail.com; Web: www.yumacoinklub.com

14—WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND: Carroll County Coin Club Annual Show; Best Western Conference Center, Rte. 140 at WMC Drive; Sat. 9:30 am-5 pm; free admission and parking; dealers from the 4-State Region, buying and selling coins, currency, tokens, medals and supplies, open to the public; contact Lester White, (410) 848-3440; Email: les.white.1@juno.com; Web: www.carrollcountycoinclub.org

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15—PEKIN, ILLINOIS: Tazewell Numismatic Society 22nd Holiday Show; Pekin Moose Lodge, 2605 Broadway Rd.; 9 am-3 pm; free admission; 45 tables; contact Steve Rassi, (309) 263-0739; Email: rassirc@omnilec.com; Web: www.facebook.com/#/fgroups/883068391733851/

20-21—THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA: 2nd Annual Rose City Coin & Currency Show; Michael Ray Owen Fine Arts Building, Professional Learning Center, 200 N. Pinetree Blvd.; Fri. 10 am-5 pm, Sat. 10 am-5 pm; 30+ tables, coins, currency, collectibles, raffle and door prizes; contact Bourse Chairman Bill Vaughan, (229) 228-6304; Email: thomasvillevaughan@gmail.com Web: www.rosecitycoinclub.wordpress.com

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20-22—GRAPEVINE, TEXAS: Texas Coin Show; Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street; Fri. 2-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-3; admission \$3; free parking, police security, gold prizes; contact Ginger or David Pike, (214) 794-5499; Email: Texascointshows@aol.com



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COINAGE KIDS

by Marcy Gibbel



Monsters on Coins

Most readers are probably no longer afraid of monsters, those imaginary or legendary creatures that live on in our mind's eye long after the Halloween season has passed.

But a majority of humans are afraid of true monsters, real animals with frightening appearances or unusual size. These are the creatures that slither and crawl on land, or swim in our oceans. Their very existence is spine-tingling enough for some. Coin collectors who love a good, scary tale, or are fascinated with Mother Nature's bizarre creations, have nothing to fear when it comes to putting together a set of "monster" coins.



Spider coin (Canada)



Snake coin (Australia)



Basilisk coin (Austria)

Whether they're mythical or natural, terrifying or just a little creepy, monsters of all types exist on world coins. This is just a sampling.

Last year, the Royal Canadian Mint issued the Spider and Web coin, the second coin its Animal Architects series. The silver coin features a painted specimen of an orb-weaving spider subspecies bearing light and dark markings on its back, body and eight legs. The harmless creepy-crawly is in the upper left quadrant of the web, moving toward the central hub where it will wait for its unsuspecting insect prey.

In 2013, Australia issued a silver 50-cent mint-colorized bullion coin for the Year of the Snake. The snake on the coin is neither a venomous nor a genuine species. The color yellow included on the pattern on the snake's body is purely symbolic. In Asia, it represents happiness and prosperity.

The fear of shark attacks first took a bite out of tourism 40 years ago with the summer release of the movie blockbuster

Jaws. Australia's Perth Mint took a bite out of the coin market in 2014 with a silver bullion coin featuring the great white shark. The reverse carries a "fearsome" depiction of a great white shark with the outline of two other sharks swimming in the background.

Of the coins that feature mythical monsters, the Austrian Mint's Basilisk coin is one of the most original. Legend has it that to look into the eyes of a basilisk—a mutant creature that is part snake, part toad and part cockerel—was instant death. The only way to destroy the monster was to confront it with its own horrid appearance.

Vampires, the mythical beings who subsist by feeding on the life essence (i.e. drinking the blood) of living creatures, have made a comeback in recent years. The Republic of Palau's Mythological Creatures Collection features an aggressive looking, highly detailed fictional vampire with a black marble-inlaid bat.

The same series also includes a were-



Vampire coin (Republic of Palau)

wolf, a mythological or folkloric human with the ability to shapeshift into a wolf or a hybrid of a wolflike creature. The classic looking coin is uncolored with an antiqued finish. A white marble full moon appears in the upper right quadrant of the coin. ☐



Werewolf coin (Republic of Palau)

◀ **Shark coin (Australia)**



Numismatic Literary Guild Awards

COINage and Contributors Win Recognition

The Numismatic Literary Guild, a prestigious organization of editors, writers and authors in the coin collecting field, recently honored *COINage* and its contributors with more than half a dozen major awards for work that appeared in this magazine.

The awards covered the 12-month period ending April 30, 2015. That corresponds almost exactly with the first year *COINage* and its sister monthly magazine *Rock & Gem* were published by Beckett Media LLC, of Dallas, Texas. Beckett acquired both periodicals in May 2014.

Winners received award plaques at the Guild's annual Bash on Aug. 13, during the World's Fair of Money outside Chicago. The Bash is an evening-long program of dining and entertainment at which satirical songs and skits alternate with the serious business of honoring top finishers in the NLG Writers' Competition. The contest has been held for nearly half a century and now draws hundreds of entries each year from writers and publications around the globe. Entries are judged by a blue-ribbon panel of professional writers—some with a numismatic background and others from outside the hobby.

COINage and its contributors swept all five awards in the category of "U.S. Numismatic Magazines." In addition, two

COINage contributing editors—Tom DeLorey and Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez—won special individual awards for articles that appeared under their bylines in the magazine.

Tom DeLorey's two-part series "The 1964-D Peace Dollar" was chosen as the Best Coin Article in any commercial numismatic magazine. The series, which was published in the August and September 2014 issues of *COINage*, examined in detail the strange, politically charged history of the more than 316,000 silver dollars that were struck at the Denver Mint in May 1965 (but dated 1964), then quickly melted. The U.S. Mint was then in the process of removing silver from newly struck dimes and quarters and reducing the amount of silver in new half dollars—so production of new silver dollars made little sense.

The same two-part series also received one of the most important NLG awards: the James L. Miller Memorial Award, which recognizes the best article published or posted in any medium during the previous year. Articles published in magazines, newspapers and coin club journals or posted on websites are all eligible for this award, so winning it is particularly difficult and meaningful.

The award is dedicated to the memory of Jim Miller, who co-founded *COINage* in 1964 and published it—as well as *Rock &*



Ed Reiter



Marcy Gibbel

Gem—until his death in 2003. The NLG established the award at that time as a fitting way to perpetuate Miller's memory, since articles were his stock-in-trade.

Another *COINage* contributing editor, David T. Alexander, received the award for Best Article on Tokens & Medals in a U.S. numismatic magazine for his fascinating article titled "The High Price of Peace," which appeared in the magazine's June 2014 issue. The article chronicled the rare public sale of a gold Nobel Peace Prize medal, which changed hands for \$1.16 million at a Baltimore auction early last year. The medal had been awarded in 1936 to a diplomat named Carlos Saavedra who, as Argentina's foreign minister, played a major role in ending the Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay.

Alexander and DeLorey both have been *COINage* contributing editors for more than a quarter-century. Both have been recipients of the NLG's top honor, the Clemy, a lifetime achievement award that has been presented annually since 1969 to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to numismatic writing. The award was named for Clement F. Bailey, a charter member of the NLG who served as managing editor of *COINage* during the 1980s.

Gene Hessler is not a contributing editor of this magazine but he, too, is a recipient of the Clemy, which was bestowed upon him for his numerous books and articles on paper money. Hessler, a leading authority on U.S. and world currency, received this year's NLG award for Best Article on Paper Money in a U.S. numismatic magazine for his article "Women on World Paper Money," which was published in the January 2015 issue. In that article, Hessler took a detailed look at the many distinguished women whose portraits have appeared on currency issued by foreign countries. The lavishly illustrated article appeared just as American activists were ratcheting up their campaign to get the U.S. government to portray a real-life woman on U.S. paper money.

The award for Best Column in a U.S. numismatic magazine went to Ed Reiter, senior editor of *COINage*, for his column "My Two Cents' Worth," which has appeared in the magazine monthly since October 1986. The column, which presents Reiter's per-

sonal views on a wide range of hobby-related subjects, frequently addresses controversial issues, such as overproduction of pricey collector coins by the U.S. Mint and overzealous efforts by women's rights advocates to get Andrew Jackson removed from the \$20 bill. Reiter became a *COINage* contributor in 1974 and has been senior editor since 1986. He wrote the weekly Numismatics column in the Sunday *New York Times* for nearly a decade.

The August 2014 issue of *COINage* received the award for Best Issue of a U.S. commercial magazine. That issue was distributed at the 2014 World's Fair of Money and contained a number of articles about Chicago, the host city of that convention, and its long heritage as a center of numismatic activity. The award cited Senior Editor Ed Reiter and Marcy Gibbel, who was managing editor at the time. Gibbel was succeeded soon after publication of that issue by the current managing editor, Lynn Varon, who doubles as managing editor of *Rock & Gem*.

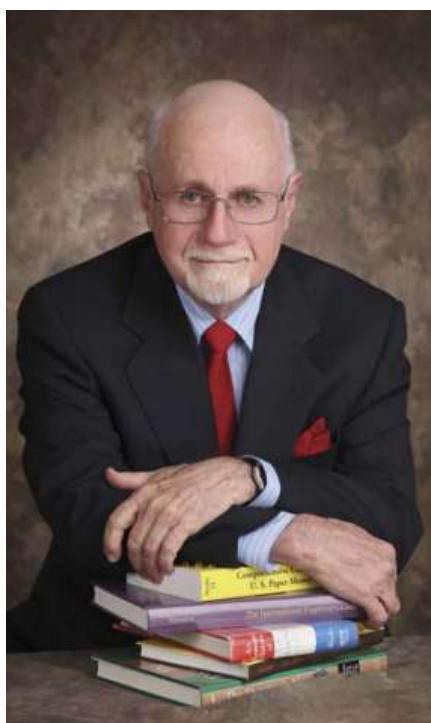
The newest *COINage* contributing editor, Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez, received the Clement F. Bailey Memorial Award as best new writer in the numismatic field. McMorrow-Hernandez, a freelance writer from Tampa, Florida, wrote his first *COINage* article—a Coin Capsule on his birth year, 1981—for the June 2014 issue and has written the popular monthly feature ever since, along with other articles on a wide variety of subjects. Coin Capsule, a monthly feature since 1991, examines the numismatic highlights of a given year in the context of important event that year in the nation and world as a whole. After less than a year as a regular contributor, McMorrow-Hernandez recently was added to the masthead's impressive list of contributing editors.

Mike Fuljenz, a frequent *COINage* contributor, was chosen as co-winner of the Book of the Year Award for *Type Three Double Eagles 1877-1907, 2nd Edition*. A review of the book appeared in the magazine's August 2015 issue.

The Numismatic Literary Guild, founded in 1968, has about 200 members on six continents. In addition to editors, writers and authors, membership is open to publishers, curators, librarians, photographers and other individuals involved in the dissemination of information about the coin hobby. ☐



Tom DeLorey



Gene Hessler



Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez



News & Notes

FEEDING FRENZY Shark Week Coins Reel In Collectors

The Atlantic island nation of Tristan da Cunha has issued a legal tender coin perfectly capturing the danger and power of the tiger shark.

Officially licensed for Shark Week by Discovery, each 2015 One Crown Tiger Shark coin is struck to a spectacular proof-like finish in a full ounce of 99.9 percent pure silver.

Discovery Channel has aired Shark Week every year since 1988. Loved by millions, it has become one of the longest-running cable television programs in history.

This 2015 Tiger Shark limited edition coin is the world's first official Shark Week silver coin.

Coin Highlights

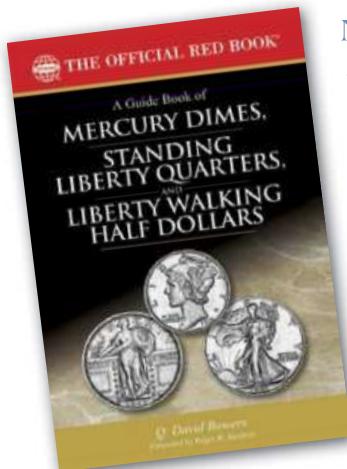
- Struck in one-ounce of 99.9 percent silver, 38.6 mm diameter
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NEW BOOK Bowers' First Edition to be Issued

[ATLANTA, GEORGIA] Whitman Publishing has released the first edition of *A Guide Book of Mercury Dimes, Standing Liberty Quarters, and Liberty Walking Half Dollars*. The 320-page book by Q. David Bowers features a foreword by Roger W. Burdette, offers pricing, grading instructions, series histories, and guidance on how to build high-quality collections of these popular coins. It is available from booksellers and hobby shops nationwide, and online (including at www.Whitman.com), for \$29.95. The book can also be borrowed for free as a benefit of membership in the American Numismatic Association, through the Dwight N. Manley Numismatic Library.

The new *Guide Book* provides instructions on how to grade these coins, tips on smart buying, retail values in multiple grades (including Proofs), certified-population data, and an analysis of each date and mintmark. Richly illustrated in full color, the book features high-resolution enlargements for important overdates and other die varieties. Mintage, specifications, and other details add to the book's importance as a standard reference, and colorful essays set the coins in the context of their historical era.

TECHNOLOGY The U.S. Mint Goes Mobile

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] The United States Mint announced the release of MyUSMint, the bureau's new mobile application (app) for smartphones.

"We're constantly striving to find new ways to serve our customers and the American public," said Principal Deputy Director Rhett Jeppson. "The new app comes on the heels of introducing a new order management system and reflects our commitment to be a world class organization."

The free mobile app is now available on Google Play™ and the App Store™. Users who download the **MyUSMint** app will have easy access to United States Mint products—including the ability to place and track orders—and educational information. Users may customize their home screen based on interests that include shopping, product schedules, gifts, best sellers, news and more.



Additional information about the United States Mint's app, **MyUSMint**, is available at www.usmint.gov/campaigns/?action=MyUSMint-mobile-app.



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In looking at advertisements in COINage Magazine, the reader should be aware that there is no precise or exacting science for grading coins. Opinions of two viewers of the identical coin can, and do, differ, even when they are those of experts, because perceptions as to the state of preservation are not always identical.

For grades that are circulated, there tend to be several well-defined and uniform criteria that are utilized, but the grades themselves may be different, because they represent an impression or indication as to the amount of wear on a coin.

Uncirculated coins have no visible signs of wear, though they may have blemishes, bag marks, rim nicks, tarnish, or may even be weakly struck (which often resembles wear). In uncirculated condition, there are many different grading opinions, some of which are described adjectively, others with numbers. Not all numbers have the identical meaning. This depends on the grading standard utilized.

The value of the item to the buyer should be determined by the price, not the grade. Your examination of and satisfaction with the coin should be the criterion, not the grade represented by the seller, or a determination made by another.

Your best protection is your own knowledge and the trust that has developed between you and the dealer over a series of mutually satisfactory transactions.

All advertisers in COINage Magazine agree to a seven-day unconditional money-back guarantee for all items with the exception of bullion and bullion-like coinage, whose dominant price element consists of the value of its precious metal.

If you are displeased with the purchase from an advertiser in COINage Magazine and do not receive proper satisfaction, please contact our advertising service department immediately.

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Uncirculated coins in mint state (MS) may be described with numbers or adjectives. Unless the advertisement indicates otherwise, the following standards are used:

MS-67: "Superb Brilliant Uncirculated" or "Superb Gem Uncirculated";

MS-65: "Gem Brilliant Uncirculated" or "Gem Uncirculated";

MS-63: "Choice Brilliant Uncirculated" or "Choice Uncirculated";

MS-60: "Brilliant Uncirculated" or "Uncirculated."

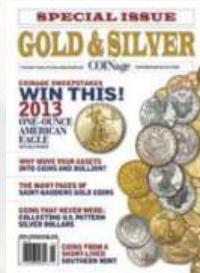
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- Reverse features Great Horned Owl design by Canadian artist Emily Damstra
- Obverse features the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Susanna Blunt
- The Fourth & Final coin in the Birds of Prey Series
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- The owl is popular with Harry Potter & Chi Omega Sorority enthusiasts

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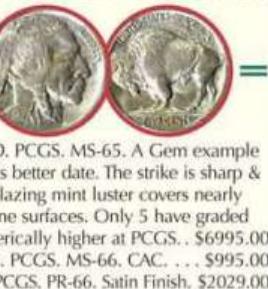
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